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JOHN BULL

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[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

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JOHN BULL.

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(under the Auspices of the League)
WILL BE HELD IN
THE TOWN HALL, PORTSMOUTH,
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FRIDAY, APRIL 15th.
Chair to be taken at 8 p.m. by the President,
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY, Esq., M.P.
Doors open at 7 p.m.
MR. LEO STORMONT will sing the League Song.
ADMISSION FREE.

A Public Meeting

(under the auspices of the League)
WILL BE HELD IN
THE ALBERT HALL, SHEFFIELD,
ON
FRIDAY, APRIL 22nd, at 8 p.m.
Chair to be taken by the President,
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY, Esq., M.P.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[*The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.*]

Gentle reader, have you ever seen a Revolution in the making? If not, you should have been in the House of Commons on the night of Thursday, April 7th, in the year of Our Lord (and our Government) 1910. We were just passing the first of the solemn Resolutions which are to destroy for ever the despotism of an irresponsible, selfish, and retrograde House of Lords, who had too long had their heels upon the necks of a down-trodden and long-suffering people. It was twenty-seven minutes past the hour of ten. On one side of the table stood Mr. Austen Chamberlain, wreathed in smiles, and on the other, Sir Rufus Isaacs, the new Solicitor-General, wearing a similar facial decoration. And all the rest of the House, with the exception of about a score of members, were rocking with merry laughter. For, you see, the joke was that by pre-arrangement the Revolution was timed to begin at 10.30; and at 10.25 Sir Rufus had been put up by the Government to give it an official send-off. He got on all right till 10.27, and was just getting the Revolutionary Army into line, when Austen, who has a pretty wit at times, carefully adjusted his monocle and rose—to a point of order! That is all we knew—and all we ever shall know. "Don't give way," shouted the Revolutionaries; "Stick to it," yelled the enemy; "Order, Order," thundered the Chairman of Committees; "Time, gentlemen, please," shrieked a Licensing authority—and so the moments sped, till the hands of the clock pointed to 10.30, and then, most appropriately—the Revolution having arrived—the "Guillotine" fell, and the power of the feudal chamber to touch our taxes was for ever gone! And you wonder that the Man in the Street laughs at Party Politics and is beginning to yearn for a sane and sober Business Government!

Perhaps the most comical feature of the whole thing has been that, by arrangement between the two parties, this "historic debate"—upon the outcome of which the destinies of the Empire were to be determined for all the ages to come—was chosen as the most suitable occasion for enabling the new members to get their maiden speeches off their chests. And when, on Monday night, after Mr. Lloyd George had "wound-up" the first stage of the debate, there was determined opposition to the closure, the reason given was that upwards of thirty new members had yet to speak! Just imagine our forefathers making a great constitutional struggle the dumping ground for maiden speeches!

Everything points one way—the Party system has broken down. Not one, nor two more, General Elections will restore its fortunes. If, in a few weeks' time, when the first appeal is made—*as it will be*—Mr. Balfour should win fifty more seats—which he may do—he will still be at the mercy of the Irish; and such is fickle political fate that at the third election—which must soon follow—Mr. Asquith may win the fifty seats, and perhaps a few more, back—and again Mr. Redmond will be supreme. Thus will it come about that these early years of the twentieth century will witness the collapse of what has for the past generation, at least, been the greatest organised hypocrisy in the world.

At the time of writing we seem to have a fairly busy week before us. A heavy libel action in the early part of the week, and on Friday morning, first a Motion to commit us for Contempt of Court; then we are down to move the rejection of the so-called Scottish Temperance Bill; and later on, we preside at the John Bull League Meeting in Portsmouth—winding up with a big South Hackney function on the Saturday. So that altogether time does not look like hanging heavily on our hands.

In another column we comment upon the unconscious blasphemy contained in religious tracts. Here is an example of unconscious political humour. Somebody from South Hackney has been writing to the papers protesting that we are not a loyal member of the Liberal Party—the reason given, being our "claim to be a Business Member and to advocate a Business Government." Rather rough on the Liberal Party!

Every reader of "JOHN BULL" may become a Proprietor, see page 548.

With the passing of the old Budget through the House of Lords (with the alteration of a few "commas," the Home Secretary and the Chancellor of the Exchequer notwithstanding), an end will probably be made of the new spirit duty. The Government have, in fact, learned their lesson; they have discovered, as we warned them long ago, that Liberals also drink whisky.

Seldom from the view-point of practical politics has there been such a Budget fiasco. The spirit duty has not only cost the Government thousands of votes, but it has wholly failed in the production of revenue, so that unless Ministers are going to pretend in their Budget of 1910-11—supposing they live long enough to introduce one—that they have a special mandate to make the horny-handed son of toi teetotal by depleting the Exchequer, there can be neither point nor purpose in perpetuating Mr. Lloyd George's financial miscalculations. This is now admitted even by the chief organ of the cocoa trade.

There is no doubt that the London policeman is saturated with the notion that the whole function of man (and woman) is to move on. That view is quite wrong; among a nation of shopkeepers it is quite unreasonable. We can therefore heartily sympathise with those West-end traders who assembled the other day to enter protest against the prosecution and conviction of a Regent Street firm for assembling a crowd by attractively dressing their shop windows. The object of a shop window is to exhibit goods in such a way that the public will be induced to stop and look at them. Undoubtedly the prosecution and conviction of Messrs. Swan and Edgar were in restraint of trade. To be consistent, the police ought to prosecute the managers of theatres and music-halls for assembling street crowds by providing popular programmes. There are times when certain London thoroughfares are almost impassable owing to the queues outside places of entertainment, but one never hears of any prosecutions in such cases; and what of the "street market" in Throgmorton Street? We take it that the population of London is not on earth merely to be shunted by policemen from one street to another. Subject to reasonable restrictions; they should be entitled to look into a shop window if they want to. It cannot be more difficult to regulate a crowd outside a shop than outside a theatre. Unless the police are kept by public opinion to the reasonable exercise of their powers, we prophesy that one of these days nobody will be allowed to stop in the street even to say "How-d'you-do?" to his grandmother.

The ex-Roosevelt is still contributing interminable articles about his tedious travels in Africa. We have already protested against his barbarous massacre of giraffes, long threatened with extinction. Now he tells us that they "showed a tameness bordering on stupidity." Perhaps that explains his sporting triumph at their expense. One account of a shooting expedition is so exactly like another that we have never yet discovered who can possibly want to read them.

It was an ingenious idea for the Yorkshire East Riding Standing Committee to send the bill for the protection of Mr. Churchill on his recent Londesborough visit to the Home Office for payment. Naturally as Home Secretary Mr. Churchill regrets that he cannot be held responsible for the police costs incurred in preventing his head being cracked as President of the Board of Trade. Furthermore, he doubtless holds that it is as much the duty of the local police to save him from wild beasts, if any, as it is to save a Standing Committeeman of the East Riding from footpads. The East Riding Standing Committee would not send in their police bill for protecting the King; and Mr. Churchill would have them clearly to understand that his crown is likewise of value to his country.

By the way, Mr. Willis Bund, the Tory Chairman of the Worcestershire Quarter Sessions, has raised a similar question in regard to a visit of Mr. Lloyd George to Stourbridge in support of a Liberal candidate. He thinks it is a sin and a shame that "the ratepayers are to pay the expense of protecting an unpopular Chancellor of the Exchequer." This is one way of looking at it, certainly. The other way of looking at it is that of the fervent taxician in question—viz., if some of the ratepayers had previously given a voluntary undertaking that none of the ratepayers would throw bricks at him, his visit would have cost them nothing. He regards the police bill as a judgment on them for what they might have done if they had welcomed him as they would rather.

We understand that the Corporation of Yarmouth contemplate the prohibition of Sunday amusements and Sunday trams. If it were merely a place where the natives sold exquisite bloaters this would not greatly matter. In point of fact, however, Yarmouth is also a popular seaside resort, and our fear is that if in the future the only attraction the town intends to offer its visitors on Sunday is a walk among the fish, the tradesmen and lodging-house keepers will have cause to regret it.

A great many hard things have been said of Mr. Asquith and his colleagues these last few months, but nothing harder, we venture to think, than that said of them by Lord Hugh Cecil in the House during the Veto closure debate. "They are killing one House by a blow," he exclaimed with the fire of fervour lighting up his eyes, "and the other by the *slow poison* of the *guillotine*." If this be true they are equal to anything, and we shall presently expect to see them chopping off the heads of the Opposition with the rope of the public hangman.

In a newspaper report of the last meeting of the Leeds Guardians, appears the statement that a letter was read from a ratepayer asking, "Can the Board give any reason for placing a large order to a Guardian's son in December last, without first giving a price for the work, and also appointing his father (a Guardian) to superintend the work?" It is a simple question, but instead of answering it the Guardians "allowed the letter to lie on the table." Which is all very well; but we should like to know whether the letter does lie on the table or whether it speaks the truth. Perhaps Mr. Burns will enquire.

At Plumstead, "in the main road facing the middle gates of the Royal Arsenal, an inn has been erected and is managed on entirely novel ideas." It appears that the new style of pub is similarly arranged to a French café; that is to say, with the whole of the interior visible and open to the street. We have always thought that the problem of drink excess would be a great deal less difficult of solution if every public house were thrown open to the full view of the street. It is characteristic of us British that we turn our inns into secret drinking places, and more or less sneak into them fearful that our neighbour shall see us. The climate of England is admittedly against the open air café; but the more nearly the British public house could be made to approach the continental model, the better.

A Barrow-in-Furness reader tells us that when recently passing the local offices of the Labour Exchange he saw in the window a notice to the following effect: "For Sale: Good sound Insurance Book—old-established company—debit £6 5s. Arrears about twice. Apply within." Our correspondent wonders whether it was intended that the Labour Exchanges should act as agents for the disposal of private businesses of this nature. So do we.

2s. 6d. makes you a Newspaper Proprietor, see page 548.

A Transvaal reader sends us a tract which is being circulated by "Africa's Revivalist Office," of Port Elizabeth. This is how it ends up:—

"How sad it would be to thwart God's plans
And forever in hell scream, 'Too Late!'
Soul withered and blighted, blasted and damned.
The object of all hell's hate."

Nothing like a tract for downright, solid blasphemy.

And here is an extract from another appeal—this time issued by the Special Gospel Mission at East Ham: "Heaven and Hell are filling fast with their respective inhabitants, whose state is eternally fixed—one of eternal happiness or everlasting misery." Now we are not concerned to dispute the statement—we are not a theological organ. But what worries us is—where are all the *good* people to go, later on?

Most things are adulterated in these days; undoubtedly it would be difficult to name many which are not, whether clothes to wear, food to eat, beverages to drink, or articles to use in other ways. Even the statement made by Mr. Weston at the Conference of Chambers of Agriculture does not much surprise us. He told his audience of a case in Buckinghamshire where pig's food was found on analysis to consist of sawdust and plaster of paris. That's nothing. It is said there are restaurants in Soho where on analysis human drink has been found to consist of water stained with logwood juice.

While on the topic of adulteration, a case which much interests us has been heard by the Cinque Ports magistrates at Margate, Messrs. Fells and Son, Broadstairs grocers, having been fined £25 and costs for selling as lard a substance which consisted wholly of cocoa-nut oil. There have been two previous convictions against the firm, the senior partner in which is a Ramsgate magistrate and a deacon in the local Congregational chapel. Selling cocoa-nut oil as lard seems to us equivalent to selling margarine as butter and chalk and water as milk, and we cannot regard the practice as one befitting either the religious professions of a deacon, the status of a Justice of the Peace, or the integrity of a tradesman. Mr. Fells, Senior, will therefore be well advised carefully to reconsider his position in regard to two of these capacities at least. The firm's customers will probably reconsider his position in regard to the third.

In old days, that is to say, before the advent of motor 'buses and taxi-cabs, we used often to see pedestrians cross the streets quite regardless of traffic. If a vehicle came towards them they merely held up their hands, or knocked the horse's nose with an umbrella, and the animal was hastily drawn back with many objurgations to allow them to pass. But nowadays people wait and cringe and scurry, and cover themselves with mud or perspiration in their frantic efforts to avoid being run over. It never seems to occur to them that a motor-car can stop far more readily than a horse, and that if they hold up their hands threateningly and cross the street with dignity, a chauffeur would still draw up rather than cause a severe accident. Chauffeurs are far too autocratic, and need to be taught their place. Of course, at first, there would be a few casualities, but the victims would be martyrs to popular rights. Who will be the first to raise the banner of freedom? We can think of several people whom we should welcome as pioneers.

The troubles we foretold in Albania have begun, and we shall not be surprised if fighting continues right away into the autumn. This may be the beginning of the end of the Turkish Empire, which has, in the minds of many, been going from bad to worse since the revolution.

The decision of Mr. Curtis Bennett, the magistrate at Bow Street Police Court, in that taxicab case was exactly what it should have been. A Mr. Bannister, of Westminster, engaged a taxicab for two other persons besides himself at Battersea Park, and the three were driven to the New Theatre in St. Martin's Lane. On arrival there, the fare registered was 2s. 2d. Mr. Bannister added 4d. as a pourboir, and gave the cabby 2s. 6d. The cabby thereupon demanded an extra 2d., saying that he was entitled to charge 6d. for an extra passenger. As the cabby would not register the 2d. in the space provided for "extras," Mr. Bannister would not pay, and the driver summoned him for non-payment of the 2d. For cool impudence the argument of the driver would be hard to beat; being paid on a percentage, he said, he "considered that all money paid in respect of additional passengers ought to go into the drivers' pockets." In other words, the fare is to assist the driver in defrauding his employers. "These proceedings," said Mr. Curtis Bennett, in dismissing the case, "are nothing more nor less than an attempt to obtain a decision to legalise what is really a fraud." Still, perhaps the taxi drivers are not too well paid for their work.

A man has been committed for trial by the Bournemouth magistrates for stealing an overcoat, the property of a man living at Boscombe. It happens to be the only overcoat the owner has to his back, but as it is "evidence" in the case, the police have taken possession of it (and the magistrates have declined to interfere) until the date of the trial. The chairman regretted that the bench "had not the power" to order the coat to be handed over to its owner. So he will have to shiver through the biting blasts of spring and beyond the day of judgment, "for," explained the Superintendent of Police, "even after the trial has been heard the police are bound to keep the coat in view of a possible appeal." Yet let the young man console himself that worse might have happened. The gentleman in custody might have stolen his trousers.

The *Graphic*, of April 2nd, has this mysterious paragraph: "One associates April 1st with anything but a serious intent. That was probably the reason why somebody in Parliament sought to identify it with a Fools' Day canard, viz., the existence of German spies at the Thames Ironworks." Somebody has evidently been poaching on our preserves. Until last Thursday, April 7th, we had not mentioned the matter referred to, since March 23rd. And we can find no record of anything in the interim. Evidently somebody has been making an April Fool of our contemporary.

Two hundred descendants of British poets met at dinner in the Holborn Restaurant a few evenings ago, Lord Coleridge in the chair. A poetess called Sharpe, Matilda Sharpe, has sent us, or somebody on her behalf has sent us, a sample of her goods, and this fact suggests the inquiry whether she was there, and whether, if so, her genius is descended from Shakespeare, Milton, Spenser, Scott, or Bobby Burns. We have not space to exhibit the whole of the sample, but a specimen is as follows:—

Hurrah for the Blessed Budget,
Away with the Veto! Go! Gladden the land.
Educate the People to a Higher Stand.
Rise up and bless the Budget. Even Great Heaven doth love it.
The Rich to pay the taxes for it,
And leave the Poor Un-Wrung.
Therefore be the Budget and the Whole Budget Sung.
It came Un-Axed—It Leaves, the Poor Un-Taxed!

Despite the overwhelming onrush of the melody, we think the authoress is very hard on Mr. Lloyd George. She hasn't dedicated it to him.

Buy your wife a "JOHN BULL" Share, see page 548.

Some Swiss wiseacre has been trying to prove by diagrams that thirty-six consecutive hours of rest every week are necessary to all healthy persons. He says a night's rest is not sufficient for recuperation from the labours of the day, and he proves it by zig-zag lines illustrating the loss and recovery of vitality. Of course, anything may be proved by a diagram as well as by statistics, but we should have thought that it was difficult to lay down a hard and fast rule for everybody. Some people, like ourselves, work about eighteen hours a day, without even a respite on Sunday, and yet remain always fresh and vigorous, and good-humoured. Others, on the other hand, are always extending their holidays. A weekly rest is certainly not natural. Look at wild animals. They do not shut themselves up and drink whisky on Sundays. But then, of course, it may be answered that they toil not, neither do they spin.

Testamentary documents in Abyssinia appear to follow unusual lines. The Negus Menelik, who has been such an unconscionable time dying, has favoured us with an advance copy of his will, which appears to consist chiefly of curses levelled at potential rebels. Referring to the man who may possibly refuse to accept Menelik's nomination of a successor, the Imperial document recites the following pious aspiration :—

> May the land adjure him who abjures my words, and may a black dog be born to him for a son. Know all you whom I have raised to dignity, know all you great and small, that I curse all who shall disobey me and who, after my death, do not follow my nephew.

This is nepotism with a vengeance, and a very original way of consigning the opposition to the dogs.

A correspondent who has a considerable acquaintance with African natives informs us that niggers are far more respectful under German, Portuguese, and French government than under British rule. This is not borne out by the experience of travellers in Somaliland, but we can quite well believe that a considerable amount of respect is exacted in places like the Congo State. At the same time, we agree that it is premature for a missionary to tell a black that he is in every way as good as a white. All in good time.

We find it difficult to credit the following statement, which is vouched to us by a Lambeth reader :—

> On a recent Saturday afternoon, at 1.50 to be precise, I called in a public-house in Lambeth Walk, and going up to the counter and not seeing any barmaid or barman behind the bar (although there were fourteen or fifteen customers, including three females in the bar), I attempted to leave the bar, but was told by one of eight detectives, as I subsequently discovered them to be, that I could not go out, and with about twenty-five other persons, including two music-hall artistes, we were detained till 4.10, when we were asked by a gentleman with a most palpable stage moustache and whiskers to turn out our pockets, and all our correspondence, private and otherwise, was perused. If this is the law it wants amending, as why people with business to do should be detained two hours and twenty minutes, instead of being searched immediately they entered the place, and if nothing incriminating was found upon them allowed to depart, is a problem I can't fathom. Perhaps whist drives will follow football competitions, no street bookmakers being left now, and who knows but what the Stock Exchange may be raided some day?

Were stomach pumps also applied?

A naval correspondent defends the Abyssinian hoax, and says the officers were "idiots" to be deceived by so transparent a device. He advocates a cypher code and telegrams asking for confirmation. But if hoaxers are continually testing the common-sense of our sailors, the nuisance may easily become a serious one.

Apart from the fact that artificial wreaths seem to be rather artificial tokens of affectionate remembrance, we cannot see much reason for the strong objections which clergy here and there throughout the country make to their being placed on graves. But, undoubtedly, Canon Blyth, vicar of Stoke, near Coventry, is on legitimate ground in giving instructions for the removal of jampots left rolling about the churchyard. As the Canon puts it, "if these receptacles are used in the churchyard for cut flowers, a hole should be dug in the grave and the jampot be buried out of sight." As a symbol of reverence the jampot strikes us as being on a par with the lobster tin; and when it is left flowerless for months, and the winds roll it away till none knows whether it was originally planted in affectionate remembrance of Uncle John or in loving gratitude to Cousin Polly, it has obviously ceased to merit respectful consideration on the part of those who are responsible for the decorous keeping of the churchyard. It is hoped, however, that Canon Blyth will see that all the jamjars collected in Stoke Churchyard are broken up. These being enterprising days, one does not like the thought of their going back to the jam factories as returned empties and coming back laden with matchless breakfast marmalade.

Writing of the vicar of Stoke, near Coventry, reminds us of the rector of East Stoke, near Wareham. This gentleman, the Rev. Pierce Armar Butler, attracts our attention by his statement that "almost the duty of every Unionist landowner and farmer is never to employ a man or allow him to become tenant of a cottage unless he is a Churchman and a Unionist." As our rev. brother perceives, "of course every cottager we allow into our villages who is opposed to Unionism is one vote against us," which shows that he is both thoughtful and observant—up to a point. The good rector adds, however, that "if you are careful to notice, every Radical labour master generally employs those with whom he agrees in politics," which suggests that there are occasions when the rev. gent does not think it necessary to see the truth. If he will excuse us for saying so, we don't believe that any Radical labour master, even in East Stoke, would be fool enough to conduct his business on any such principle.

We are informed that a preacher of the Imperial Sunday Alliance accused us of being Kill-joys for forcing people to work on "the Sabbath." But we never desired to force anyone to work on that or any other day. We have only contended that people should be allowed to amuse themselves wherever and whenever they please. What about the forced labour of sacristans, sidesmen and organists—and even parsons on "the Lord's Day"?

Which reminds us that when the Rev. A. M. Snadder, minister of John Knox Church, in Aberdeen, recently requested the Aberdeen Presbytery to lend its patronage to a bazaar in aid of the fund for the erection of a new church, another minister objected that "there was a good deal of frivolity in connection with bazaars—perhaps not frivolity, but excitement," wherefore it was proposed, seconded, and carried that the request be refused on the ground that "the days on which it was proposed to hold the bazaar immediately preceded the Communion Sunday." The meaning of this resolution is apparently that Aberdeen folk who go to a bazaar on Thursday, Friday or Saturday are quite unfit for Communion on Sunday morning. The effect of dipping in the lucky tub and paying twice their value for things of no use to anybody appears to be even more demoralising than we had imagined.

Buy your fiancee a "JOHN BULL" Share, see page 548.

A little story of the late Mr. Tomkinson. It was the morning of the first day of the present Parliament. We met him at a quarter to eight on his way to the House, to secure a seat, and we walked with him into the lobby—where we were joined by a group of other members. We then missed the hon. member; but, being the first to enter the House when the doors were unlocked, we were surprised to find him sitting with a smiling face in his old seat. Whilst we had all been waiting in the lobby, the wily old fellow had worked his way round the corridors and got into the House from behind the Speaker's chair. "I always take the shortest cut," he said. Well, peace to his soul! He was one of the few survivors of the Old School, and helped to save the House from commonplace. He lived a gentleman and died a sportsman—and who wants a better epitaph?

Hearty congratulations to General Booth on his eighty-first birthday. We do not like some of the methods of the Army (and we have reason to believe that all is not well with it just now), but we raise our hat to its Grand Old Man.

The Week's "Chestnut":—

"What am oratory, Brudder Jackson?" asked the negro convert. "Brudder Simmons," said Jackson, "I will elucidate. If you says 'Black am white' dat am foolish. But if you says 'Black AM white' and bellers like a bull, an' pounds on de table wif bofe fists, dat am oratory—and de folk will believe you."

THE JOHN BULL LEAGUE HAS ITS EYE ON—

THE NOTTINGHAM WATCH COMMITTEE, WHO THOUGHT THE FULL TITLE OF THE MELODRAMA, "THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY," SUBVERSIVE OF PUBLIC MORALITY, AND HAD BILLS PASTED OVER THE WORD "ASTRAY" ON THE HOARDINGS!

"John Bull's" Biscuits.

NOTICE.—No more biscuits for births, deaths, or marriages, which creep into the wrong column. Much too gruesome to be funny!
OLD WOMEN.—Biscuits are uncompromisingly denied to papers alluding to "old women of both sexes." There are so many of them.
WEDDINGS.—No biscuits for bridegrooms wearing picture hats and crepe de chine. Why shouldn't they?

For publishing under the heading of "Brewers' Touts," a photograph of the new Bishop of Lincoln,
THE DAILY NEWS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that: "You are not fit to go about alone. Next time you go about ALONE *you had better have a* KEEPER,"
A GUERNSEY POLICE-SERGEANT
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in an advertisement in "Woman's Life". "If your bootmaker cannot supply, send outline of HEEL *to the* SOLE *Manufacturers,"*
THE B. F. GOODRICH CO., 7, SNOW HILL, E.C.,
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For announcing: "Working MOUSEKEEPER, *gentleman or widower,"*
AN ADVERTISER IN *THE BOURNEMOUTH DAILY ECHO*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that a lady's MAIDEN *name was "*MRS. *Branton,"*
THE HULL DAILY MAIL
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that a Russian was undergoing a sentence of ten years' penal servitude "for being an ARCHITECT,"
THE NORTH-EASTERN DAILY GAZETTE
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating, "You might go on playing the same tune over and over again to some people, and they would not know the DIFFERENCE,"
MR. JUSTICE EVE (per *DAILY MAIL*)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating, in an account of a boxing contest, that Al Clancy BEAT *Pte. Marks, and that, after a stubborn encounter a "*DRAW *resulted,"*
THE JEWISH CHRONICLE
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that "there are some exercises which will reduce the waist—that zone where FISH *seems to delight to settle, much to the fair one's chagrin and discomfort,"*
THE STAR
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that a veterinary surgeon said that a horse "was suffering from chronic inflammation of the REAR FRONT LEG,"
THE KENTISH MERCURY
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For alluding to "a RUBBER MINE,"
THE DAILY TELEGRAPH
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that: "Fr. Vaughan's recent lecturing activity is a sufficient REFUTATION *of the improved state of his health,"*
THE YORKSHIRE EVENING POST
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For announcing: "Valet-Attendant.—Advertiser would be glad to meet with elderly gentleman needing personal care or SMALL FAMILY; *middle-aged, and* SINGLE."
JOHN FROST, 128, FERHAM ROAD, ROTHERHAM,
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For reporting an Inspector as having stated that "he found portions of ham at Allen's house, and reels of silk thread OF THE SAME MAKE,"
THE SUSSEX DAILY NEWS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

Buy each of your children a "JOHN BULL" Share, see page 548.

OPEN LETTERS, POSTCARDS AND TELEGRAMS.

To Mr. Theodore Roosevelt.

Dear Teddy,—I always thought it was a redeeming feature of your republic that, when a President retired, he became a plain citizen. You are, of course, a very plain cit., in the opinion of beauty experts, but you seem to continue your absurd claim to royal prerogatives, even now that you are nobody. Returning from the slaughter of giraffes, you have gone out of your way to be abominably rude to the Pope. Who are you that you should impose high and mighty conditions when asking for an audience? After all, you may be remembered in history as the eponymous patron of Teddy Bears.

John Bull.

To Mrs. Blanche Eardley, Ladies' Army and Navy Club, London.

My Dear Madame,—Apropos the scene you raised at a London matinée by declining to take off your hat, though twice requested by a man behind to do so, I trust you will not mind my pointing out to you that your conduct was somewhat selfish. You admit that the hat was certainly large—"a yard across and trimmed with three big feathers"—and you must have been aware that this mammoth and pyramidal millinery entirely shut out the view of the stage from those behind. You say that you were about to take off the thing when someone remarked, "Please take off that ridiculous hat," and that after this rude remark, you determined not to do so. As you are a lady, I shall not even permit myself a mental reservation in respect of this *ex parte* version of the incident. But whilst I deprecate the rudeness, I am inclined in the circumstances to excuse it. What the man should have said was, "Will you be pleased to remove your *chapeau de luxe* in order that the audience may instruct themselves in the way you do your beautiful hair?"; but I fear that he forgot his manners in the anxiety of the moment. It is true your object in wearing this vast headgear would have been defeated if you had separated yourself from it without permitting the audience reasonable time for inspection and comment; but, my dear madame, I should like to hear what you, as one interested in the rights of women and not at all in the wrongs of man, would say if the men who go to matinées insisted on wearing their silk toppers throughout the performance? Excuse me. On second thoughts I don't think I should. John Bull.

To James Grieg, Esq., Art Critic and Second-Sight Performer.

Dear Jimmy,—Permit me to say how sorry I am that you've seen what isn't there. The facts are simple. You go to the National Gallery in pursuit of art, stop before the Venus painted by Velasquez or some other fellow, believe you see in a corner the initials of that other fellow, write to the *Morning Post* about it, cause to assemble round the painting a crowd armed with magnifying glasses, and finally stir up such a stew that six unparalleled experts have to assemble, take down the picture from the Gallery walls, lift the canvas out of the frame, and the glass from the canvas, invite you to indicate the precise whereabouts of the other fellow's signature among the cracks and paint splashes, and finally declare that they can't see it. "However," says one of them, "not the slightest doubt can be cast on Mr. Grieg's sincerity." So that's all right, my friend. You're sincere, but you're troubled with optical delusions. There is one reason which makes me glad that your eyesight is not what it ought to be. Strictly speaking, it wouldn't have mattered a tinker's objurgation whether this particular view of Venus was painted by Velasquez or Cap'n Tommy Bowles, except that a few months ago some of us gave £45,000 for it and hung it up in the National Gallery—a magnificent bargain at the price! But if it had really borne the initials of Juan Bautista del Mazo, then the experts would have begun to price up this backscape of Venus afresh, and would probably have knocked off £44,990 for the sign manual and allowed a doubtful tenner for the paint. I have thought the picture dear at £45,000 from the first, peradventure because I never can appreciate a Venus who turns her back upon the audience. She may be all very well as an advertisement for soap or scrubbing brushes, but as a picture she leaves something to be desired. Nevertheless, I admit I'm not an art critic, my dear Grieg, and if the question is settled, it's settled. Trouble Venus no more. Let her hang in peace. John Bull.

To the Chairman, Board of Guardians, Stepney.

Dear Sir,—At your early convenience I shall be glad to learn what decision has been arrived at by the special committee appointed by your Board to consider the course to be adopted in future in regard to samples sent to you and your colleagues by persons tendering for supplies. I gather that some of the members have hitherto had a conscientious conviction that these samples were their personal perquisites. When it comes to a matter of contracts it is easy to see that samples may have a wide meaning; they may range, for instance, from a side of bacon to a mangle. One of the Board admits that when on one occasion somebody sent in specimens of carbolic soap, he took them home in order to kill fleas; so it is obvious that the samples are not only varied but useful. I suppose it occasionally happens that persons who send in tenders deliver small tasting specimens of their goods, salt and pepper and mustard, for instance, and vinegar, and milk, and whisky, and wine, and beer. In this case one recognises that a Guardian has to do his duty, and I admit it is a knotty point whether he should taste them at home, in the quiet of his study, or in the company of his colleagues at a full meeting of the Board.

However that may be, I have no doubt I can rely upon the committee now appointed impartially to consider the question in all its bearings; and if it should be decided that the samples shall be shared out and taken home—that, say, one member shall judge the murphies, another the onions, another the champagne, another the whisky, another the carbolic soap, and so forth, I don't see that I could charitably make a song about it, always provided that the goods were apportioned by means of a rota, so that no one guardian should get all the wine, and another the carbolic. John Bull.

To the Magistrates, Roose Sessions, Haverfordwest.

Gentlemen,—I am somewhat astonished at your ability to arrive at the decision you did in a case in which, a few days ago, two men were charged before you with cruelty to a cat. It was not denied that they fastened a piece of cord to the animal's neck, tied it to a tree, and then beat it with a stick about the head for several minutes. A police-constable gave evidence that he "afterwards saw the cat and found that one leg was broken, whilst an eye was also knocked out and it was bleeding at the ears." The only defence put forward by the men was that "they had tried to drown the animal in a bucket, but it became vicious." I can respect their accuracy. If I were to try to drown those men in a water-butt they would probably become vicious. The result of the hearing was that your excellencies dismissed the case. Your chairman told the men that he did not believe they intended to be cruel. They were "very clumsy about the way they destroyed the cat," said he, "but the magistrates believe they were making the best efforts they could according to their lights." According to their lights! I crave leave to pity the other cats in the jurisdiction. Their path to elsewhere is likely to be painfully paved with other people's good intentions.

John Bull.

To P. C. Denham, Surbiton, London.

Dear P.C.—Just a word of congratulation on two facts; one, on being so brave that on behalf of the Commissioner of Police Sir Albert de Rutzen, the Bow Street magistrate, has presented you with a cheque for £5 for rescuing a man from drowning in the Thames; the other, on being so handsome that you have received several offers of marriage. It is written that none but the brave deserve the fair. Take your choice; and may you never be sorry that you saved that man. John Bull.

Asquith, Prime Minister, England.

Quite delightful to find you and Balfour can agree about something, if only Poor Law Reform. Bull.

Sir Mackenzie Chalmers, President, Anæsthetic Inquiry Committee, London.

Never doubted Committee would come to any other decision than that certain number deaths from administration anæsthetics at operations due to preventible causes. Agree only registered practitioners should act as anæsthetists and all deaths should be reported to coroner.

John Bull.

Six per cent. certain and twenty prospective, see page 548.

BOARDED-OUT GIRLS.

A FATHER'S GRAVE COMPLAINT.—BOARDED-OUT GIRLS BRUTALLY ILL-TREATED AND INDECENTLY ASSAULTED.

We have received a complaint from Mr. James Taylor, of 50, Station Road, Plumstead, respecting the treatment of his deaf and dumb child, Winifred Taylor. Mr. Taylor sent his daughter to the Fitzroy Training College for Deaf Children, to be educated, and she was boarded out by the school authorities at the house of a Mrs. J——, who resides at Upper Holloway, London. In due course, Mr. Taylor received intimation from the school authorities that the school would close for the midsummer holidays, and he came to London and took his daughter home. Arriving there, the child complained to her mother that her arms, back, chest and legs were very sore, and commenced to cry. When her mother undressed her to put her to bed, she found the child had a great number of bruises on various parts of her body. Her hair was covered with nits, and her toe-nails were growing under the toes for want of attention. On being informed of the condition of the child, Mr. Taylor examined her body and found she had 13 bruises on various parts of it. One bruise measured over 4 inches. She also had a big bruise on her spine, and one across the chest. Mr. Taylor asked his daughter who had made these marks on her body, and she intimated, "Mother, with a stick"—meaning Mrs. J——. Her father asked her why the woman had beaten her, and the child led him to understand that she was given oats to eat, she did not like them, and Mrs. J—— beat her until she ate them.

The N.S.P.C.C. Inquire.

Mr. Taylor communicated with Miss Ferrier, the head mistress of the College, complaining of the marks of violence on his daughter's body, and insisting that the school authorities should take some action to punish the person who had so cruelly ill-treated his child. In reply, Miss Ferrier stated that she had sent on Mr. Taylor's complaint to Mrs. Western, who was responsible for the boarding out of his daughter. Soon after, Inspector Milne, of the N.S.P.C.C., called upon Mr. Taylor, and asked him to take the child to his (Mr. Milne's) house to be examined. This was done, and the inspector found the marks of violence on her body, and said that the child had been cruelly ill-treated. Mr. Milne said he would send his report up to the head office at once. Later on, another of the Society's inspectors, named Roberts, called and examined the child and told Mr. Taylor that the Society did not intend to take any action against Mrs. J——, as Mrs. Western had given her an excellent character, whilst, on the other hand, alleging that Mr. Taylor and his wife were drunkards. On August 14th, the Society wrote and informed Mr. Taylor that they had communicated the result of their enquiry to those who were responsible for it being made, and there the matter must end.

Indecent Assault.

Knowing that another child, named Phœbe Aldried, was removed from Mrs. J——'s charge, Mr. Taylor communicated with her mother, who lives at Grimsby, and Mrs. Aldried, in reply, informed him that she removed her child owing to something connected with Mrs. J——'s boys and the cruel way the woman treated her daughter Phœbe. Mr. Taylor then further questioned his daughter, when he found that the two boys, Arthur and Reginald J——, had on more than one occasion indecently assaulted his daughter. Mr. Taylor thereupon went to the N.S.P.C.C. and saw Mr. Terraisse, the Society's legal adviser, and informed him of what his daughter had told him and her mother of the misbehaviour of these boys to her and Phœbe Aldried. Mr. Terraisse replied that Mr. Taylor must not come up there and make accusations against respectable people. Mr. Taylor answered that he was making no accusations but simply giving facts as they had been related to him by his daughter and Mrs. Aldried.

On his return home, Mr. Taylor wrote to Miss Ferrier, the Head Mistress of the Fitzroy College, complaining of the behaviour of the two boys towards his daughter, but nothing came of his complaint. He then wrote to the Northampton Education Committee and sent the whole of the correspondence he had had with the authorities of the school for their consideration, and the upshot of it was an enquiry by the Board of Education. This enquiry was held by Mr. Oates.

The Northampton Education Committee Intervenes.

The Inspector asked if either Mrs. Western or Miss Ferrier, who were in attendance, could state how it was that Mrs. J—— was selected to have the care of Winifred Taylor. Miss Ferrier replied that enquiries had satisfied the Boarding-out Committee that Mrs. J—— was a proper person to whom to entrust children. The Inspector enquired what steps the authorities had taken upon Mr. Taylor's letter of complaint. Miss Ferrier replied that she at once sent his letter on to Mrs. Western, of 36, Lancaster Gate, Hyde Park, who was responsible for the boarding-out of Winifred Taylor, and Mrs. Western stated that as soon as she received the leter from Miss Ferrier she caused enquiries to be made by the N.S.P.C.C., and she wrote to the Society. In this letter Mrs. Western charged Mr. Taylor with being a drunkard. Mr. Taylor demanded that the letter should be read, but the Inspector refused. In the course of the enquiry, Mr. Holland, the Secretary to the Northampton Education Committee, complained of the manner in which the Fitzroy College authorities had treated Mr. Taylor, and pointed out that no apology was ever sent to him. The Committee of the School did not hold any enquiry to get at the truth of the alleged ill-treatment, nor did they, on receipt of Mr. Taylor's second complaint, which was of a very serious nature, and referred to the indecent behaviour of the boys, move in the matter.

We have before us a letter addressed by Mr. Silsby Bigge, of the Board of Education, to Mr. Taylor, in which he gives the conclusions of the enquiry. The Inspector found :—

(1) That though the present management of the school is satisfactory, the Board are not satisfied that the precautions taken to guard against the possibility of ill-treatment of boarded-out children were formerly sufficiently stringent.

(2) In the method of selecting a home for Winifred Taylor proper care was not exercised.

(3) On receiving your complaint the School Authorities took reasonable steps to enquire into the charge of ill-treatment, but did not investigate the further charge of indecent assault, subsequently made.

(4) That they failed to communicate the result of the enquiry into the allegation of ill-treatment and did not state the grounds of their decision not to investigate the further charge.

Mr. Bigge went on to inform Mr. Taylor that the Board found that the regulations as to the boarded-out children were not in all respects strictly observed, and that the result of the enquiry has been communicated to the Northampton Local Education Authorities.

And there the matter stands. It seems to us that Mr. Taylor has very grave cause of complaint against the Fitzroy Training College, and Mrs. Western. He sent his deaf child to the College. The College sent her to a boarding-out house managed by a woman who cruelly illtreated the child. Not only did she cruelly assault this poor little deaf and dumb girl, bruising her body in several places, but her two sons indecently assaulted the child, not once but several times. And when these facts were brought to the notice of the College, and the boarding-out Committee, only a perfunctory enquiry was held, and the endeavour of the School Authorities seems to have been to hush up the matter rather than probe it to the bottom. Nor can we say that the N.S.P.C.C. comes much better out of the enquiry. Their attention was directed to the brutal ill-treatment of the child by the woman, and to indecent assaults upon her by the boys. We can imagine no case that ought to have appealed more directly to the Society, but, instead of going through with it, we find the Inspector, acting upon a suggestion of Mrs. Western, trying to ascertain in the neighbourhood of their residence whether her statement that Mr. and Mrs. Taylor were drunkards was true or not. Afterwards they do nothing. The Board of Education finally steps in, and takes evidence which proves Mr. Taylor's statements, but beyond conveying a certain formal censure to the Authorities of the Training College, they, too, do nothing.

We must interrogate the President of the Board of Education upon the matter. It cannot be allowed to rest where it is.

What Is Your Number?

See page iii. of Cover.

Buy the baby a share and reinvest the dividends till it comes of age, see page 548

AN UNDERGRADUATE'S COMPLAINT.

A WORD WITH CONSTABLES C.R. 40 AND C.R. 33.

We have received the following letter from an Oxford (Exeter) Undergraduate :—

I wonder if the following little story concerning the methods of the Metropolitan Police Force would interest you. On a recent Saturday, after witnessing the Inter-University Sports and dining with some friends in the evening, I was returning to my hotel in Berners Street, in company with three other gentlemen, when, in passing through Leicester Square, we were ordered by the police to walk singly instead of arm-in-arm. Obeying this somewhat natural request, we pursued our way, closely followed by C.R. 40 and C.R. 33, halting at a street corner to allow a taxi-cab to pass by. Almost before it had passed we were pushed violently into the road by the said constables, whereupon I turned round and said, "You are exceeding your privileges. I shall take your numbers." No sooner were the words out of my mouth than I and my friend were taken into custody and marched off to Vine Street, remonstrating to no purpose.

On arrival, we were astounded to find ourselves charged before the inspector with being drunk and disorderly, dancing on the pavement, and pushing people into the road. Asked if we were guilty, we hotly denied the charges and sent for the prison doctor. After putting us through various tests, this interesting fractionary certified us both to be drunk, in spite of the fact that we passed every test satisfactorily, and that our sobriety was and had been throughout the evening positively depressing.

We were then put into the cells and kept there for two hours, till the efforts of our friends managed to get us bailed out, and before leaving the station I took down full particulars of the numbers of the officers concerned.

On appearing at Bow Street on Monday morning, in spite of the evidence of doctor, inspector, and the two constables, we defended ourselves successfully and were discharged without, so to speak, a stain on our characters.

That, sir, is the story, and if publicity can in any way safeguard private individuals from being submitted to inconveniences of this sort at the hands of such men as C.R. 40 and C.R. 33, I should be obliged to you and your estimable paper for bringing the facts to light.

It is obvious from the decision of the magistrate that the constables acted very improperly, and we are curious to know what has happened after the verdict. Have these constables been punished ?

THE DIFFERENCE.

What the Kill-joy says :	What "John Bull" says :
1. A man who says "damn" is a lost soul.	A man who says nothing worse is very nearly an angel.
2. A man who votes for Sunday trams is a lost soul, and ought to be excommunicated.	A man who votes for a Kill-joy is a poor piece, and ought to be disfranchised.
3. A man who "gives public worship a bye" is a lost soul.	A man who perpetually plays the hypocrite is bound to come off second best in the end.
4. A man who refuses the Gospel according to myself is a lost soul.	A man who lets you mother him is well started on the road to Bedlam.
5. A man who indulges in pleasure is a lost soul.	A man who indulges in nothing but Puritanical manias is a public nuisance.
6. A man who visits a theatre, a public-house, a ballroom, or a racecourse is a lost soul.	A man who has no practical experience of these places should hurry up and complete his education.
7. A man who marries his deceased wife's sister is a lost soul.	A man who tempts Providence a second time with any woman is a hero.
8. A man who laughs on the Sabbath is a lost soul.	A man with a face like stale gruel is for ever powerless to cheer the lot of humanity.
9. A man who differs from me on any point is a lost soul.	A man who can't think for himself isn't worth his salt.
10. You—John Bull—are a lost soul.	Well—I'll take my chance !

Messrs. Chas. Crop and Sons, of Homerton, the celebrated makers of clay pipes, have sent us samples of their latest production—a fine model in colouring clay of the head of the duke taken from the well-known poster, "What ! Tax *my* Land ?" The pipes are mounted in vulcanite, and are certainly a seasonable novelty.

THE SALVATION ARMY AND "JOHN BULL."

AN INCIDENT AT GLASGOW.

The Salvation Army authorities have taken exception to the article that appeared in our issue of April 2nd, entitled "A Study in Farm Colonies." It may be remembered that the writer made a close inspection of the Salvation Army Labour Farm at Hadleigh, and the German Farm at Ledbury Hall, and his conclusion was that the German Farm was very much better managed than that of the Salvation Army. He gave facts and figures in support of this opinion, and although the article was in no way controversial, it was proved very clearly that whilst the German labourers are treated very much better than the English, the Hadleigh Farm experiment shows an annual heavy deficit, whereas the German almost balances.

The Salvation Army authorities have declined the invitation of the writer of the article to answer it in these columns, nor, although challenged to do so, have they been able to point to any one misstatement of fact contained in the article. In these circumstances we suggest to them that they do not improve their position by railing at John Bull.

We have now to direct their attention to the following statement which we have received from Glasgow. Our correspondent writes :—

Apropos your recent exposure of the Salvation Army and their methods, I am sure you will be interested in the following facts. To celebrate the opening of their new Bermaline Bakery Messrs. Montgomery and Co. asked the Lord Provost of Glasgow to accept 20,000 loaves to be given to the deserving poor in Glasgow, Govan and Partick. The offer was gratefully accepted and the Salvation Army and several mission workers were asked to see to the distribution. The various missions distributed the bread to the most deserving cases, but not so the Salvation Army. They carted their share to their model lodging-house in London Street and sold it to the lodgers. What do the Salvation Army authorities say to this ?

HOW THE GERMANS CAPTURE TRADE.

The following notice is taken from the *Rand Daily Mail*, Johannesburg, and speaks eloquently on the subject of German enterprise : —

Notice.

It is Hereby Notified for General Information that the Imperial German Consulate, Loewenstein's Building, Market Square, is prepared to Supply Information concerning addresses of German Manufacturers, Shippers, Produce Buyers, etc., to anybody interested therein. The Consulate also possesses a fairly large collection of Catalogues and Price Lists, which is free to public inspection. An Official conversant with commercial matters is in attendance from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

When will our Consuls take the hint ?

A LASTING IMPRESSION.

Both maid and man were sore distressed
The time had come for them to part ;
Her damask cheek she fondly pressed
Above his wildly beating heart.

And, as he stroked her shell-like ear
And gazed into her limpid eyes,
He said, " I wish your cheek, my dear,
Might ever rest where now it lies ! "

But late that night, too mad to speak,
He, wavering 'twixt rage and hope,
Endeavoured to remove her cheek
With strong ammonia and soap.

Charles Vivian.

THE ROYAL NATIONAL LIFEBOAT INSTITUTION.

With reference to our remarks on the proposal of the controllers of this institution to introduce a pension scheme, a correspondent writes to thank us for our opposition to it, and expresses the conviction that if it is brought home to the usual subscribers to the fund that a substantial portion of their monies will go to paying pensions to men whose salaries were fixed on a non-pension scale there will soon be a serious diminution in the subscriptions received.

Half-a-crown that may become a pound, see page 542.

78 YEARS AGO

Henry Stephens invented an ink with the colour-matter in perfect solution & therefore fluid and pleasant to write with.

TO DAY with numberless improvements -the result of experience-

Stephens' Ink

is by far the most fluid and reliable ink in the world.

A SCOTCH SUNDAY.

By Dixcott.

I am in the thick of it. A fit of melancholy is gripping me in the vitals, and unless *something* happens, Hope will be blighted within me, and the sweet fount of Joy will no longer fount.

Let me first explain that I am young and innocent, and have been inveigled into Scotland by an unscrupulous person who for some reason unknown to me must have desired a sinister revenge. You understand, therefore, that it is not my fault, that it is the first time, *and will be the last.*

I am a rink prospector, *i.e.*, I am flying about the country seeking suitable sites for putting up the rinks that are pouring golden sovereigns into the laps of their millionaire proprietors as rapidly as the grains of wheat do pour into the grain warehouses. At any rate, so the Press says, and it should know. Some cunning and malignant creature—that is the most generous thing I can say of him—informed my "governor" that a fortune—a fortune to pass the dreams of avarice—was to be made by merely erecting a shed and laying a floor and labelling it "Rink," if that shed were erected and that floor laid within the precincts of Aberauchter. No sooner was the hint given than I was packed off to Aberauchter. (I *cannot* tell you how it is pronounced, nor do I care.) I left London at 11.20 p.m., and reached Aber., etc., at midnight on the Friday. I am too feeble to express my thoughts on the train service in the wilds of Bonnie Scotland. I can only weep.

Early on Saturday morning I approached the Mayor—I mean the Provost—to ascertain his worship's opinion on the prospects of a skating rink in his "toon." He gripped my hand with the grip of a grizzly bear, and his beard and whiskers were grizzly beyond compare.

"A' weel," he vouchsafed—(they still "vouchsafe" in Scotland)—"p'raps it wid, p'raps it widna. Aa dinna ken. Folks are sae frichtened o' these new-fangled notions."

"Ah," I responded, feeling my way. "There has been some innovation that has displeased them, doubtless?"

"Aa widna gae sae far as to say 'displeaséd,'" he replied. He was cautious, "Na, na, not 'displeaséd.' But there has been a rare tae-dae aboot it. It's these bicycles. The farmers are up in airms again them, and the owd folks say that the young folks a' gae runnin' into the toons on them, and gettin' into mischief. But, as Aa say, in my opeenion it tends to sobriety, for a maun canna' ride a bicycle and be drunk."

O worthy, just, and upright Provost!

O the giddy whirligigs of Aberauchter that do entice the Youth and Innocence as the flame doth the foolish moth! And the climate lends itself to hilarity, as for eight months of the year "the rain it raineth every day."

Saturday passed, and it is now Sunday—Sunday night, and I am still sane. But I cannot stand the strain much longer. I am in a cold sweat. Yesterday I wrote to my governor that the town was dormant, and needed something to rouse it up. To-day, to-night, I know it is dead to the world, dead as a door nail, as a man buried alive, as a . . . a small Scotch town.

This morning I sat alone in the ghostly breakfast room of the hotel. I looked out of the window. The rain poured steadily down—oh, so steadily. Never a flicker, never a torrent, never a falter. Steadily it soaked the land. Steadily it has thus soaked the land since my arrival at midnight on Friday, and steadily it intended to continue. Is it the persistent rain that teaches the Scotchman his aggravating virtue of "plodding"? I looked along the High Street, down the High Street East, and up the High Street West. Not a soul stirred. Not a cock crew or a bird chirruped. I enquired of the maid whether I could anywhere buy a Sunday paper. She was carrying the tray, and I nearly lost my breakfast.

"In this God-fearin' toon!" she answered, horrified.

"It is a bit quiet in Aberauchter on Sunday," I ventured.

"It is a day of rest," she replied.

I was silenced. So was everything else. Heedless of the rain, I emerged from the hotel and walked along the High Street. Here I espied a number of automatons, resembling human beings, all walking in the same direction—towards the kirk. What genius could describe the headgear of the men, the creations of the women? Top-hats here that first saw the light more years ago than I can recollect, shapes that could only have been imagined by a Scotchman who was as mad as a hatter. Suddenly, I remarked that stern and severe looks were being cast at me. I was evidently committing some crime, something heinous. Possibly a committal offence under the Scotch calendar? Then, by the glances I realised the enormity of my offence—I wore a cap, and was actually walking with my hands in my pockets, on a Sunday, and walking *away* from the kirk!

I beat an ignominious retreat to the hotel, passing some young gentlemen who would in any other town have been hooligans, judging from their countenances, and have given the police trouble. They were letting their exuberant spirits flow forth in loudly humming "Onward, Christian Soldiers." Such is the sobering effect of the Scotch Sunday.

A cold lunch was brought to me in that ghostly, ghastly room. I nearly cried. All through the afternoon not a blessed soul could be seen—and it rained!

It is tea-time. I fall to it ravenously, not that I am hungry, but I *must* do something. In the middle of it I stop in despair. A thought has suddenly struck me.

"What on earth shall I do when I have eaten and drunk as much as I can manage?"

The crisis comes; I can eat no more. My back teeth are under water—the last bit went in with a splash.

I ring for the maid.

"Is there anything on to-night, miss?" I ask.

"There is a Service of Praise after the Evening Service," she replies.

!!!

I slip downstairs to find the proprietor.

"Er—have you any chess that I can play with?"

I swear I did not intend to hurt the man's feelings. He looked aghast.

"Chess! Aa dinna believe i' sic' things!"

I am crushed.

I hunt for books. Now I am desperate. I find some. "The Life and Times of Bailie Strathpeffers." "The Daft Goniel." (What on earth is a "daft goniel"?) "Sunday Observance," by M'Andrew MacRobbie.

I attack the last mentioned pompous windbag, and read:—

> "It is no havering to say that the folks of Auchtergavan and Auchterarder, and of Auchterleeks, near Blair Atholl, and, sad to say, we must also include the country around Ballintuim, near Kirkmichael, and of Ballinluig, in Logierait, are falling away from the observances that have made the Scottish Sunday so beautiful. . . ."

Whizz! The book crashes against the far wall.

Hark! Lusty voices are calling the town to arms with beat of drum and shriek of fife! It is an open-air religious meeting, defying the elements.

I have just walked fifteen times round the dining-room table without a stop. I am going crazy!

Am I really in the centre of twenty thousand living beings? Do Scotch—I mean Scots or Scottish—men breathe air?

Now I begin to laugh wildly at my own feeble jokes.

I will get drunk—blind, paralytic. I rush out—the public-houses do not open on Sundays!

The hysterical laughter is followed by melancholia, bearing me down, bearing me down. I wash myself for the sixth time, and change into the clothes that I changed out of an hour ago—and there is not a soul to see whether I am clad at all. The silence is deepening. The clock ticks as no earthly clock ever ticked before; it must be unearthly, for no earthly thing would dare to create an echo on a Sunday in Scotland. It is ten o'clock at night, and the silence that fell upon Egypt on the night preceding the slaughter of the first-born is as nothing to the silence that lies upon Aberauchter. Reason is fast slipping from me. Oh, for strength to hold out until the first train in the morning.

OUR POSTER COMPETITION.

We regret that it is impossible for us to announce the result of this competition till next week. Altogether, nearly three thousand suggestions were received, and the work of considering them has been very heavy.

Mr. John H. Crann, Chairman of the Stourport Justices, tells us that the railway servant, named Mayo, upon whose sentence we recently commented, had appeared before the Court in August last on a charge of stealing, and had then been let off on payment of the costs. In so far as this fact mitigates our strictures, we are pleased to give publicity to its

The smallest subscriber will have a chance, see page 548.

The Illustrated Chambers's Encyclopædia.

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What would you say if you heard of a book by which you could increase your knowledge general and scientific; by means of which you could give your children a better start in life than you had yourself; by the use of which your reading—even if all you can manage is half-an-hour's daily reading of the papers—may become of real solid educational value to you?

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consists of Ten Handsome Volumes, beautifully bound, 200,000 Subjects, with cross references, 8,000 Pages of new clear type, written by 1,000 Contributors of world-wide distinction. There are 4,000 Engravings superbly reproduced, 50 Coloured Maps, each one absolutely up-to-date, and in conformity with the latest investigation and research. There are also over 50 Coloured Plates, the finest ever produced in connection with any work of reference, and 5,000 Biographies of famous men and women, together with the histories of all the great movements with which many of them were associated. For solid excellence this latest edition is absolutely unsurpassable. The man who quotes from "The Illustrated Chambers's Encyclopædia" knows whose opinion he is quoting, for there are over 1,000 Expert Contributors. The information contained in "The Illustrated Chambers's Encyclopædia" (latest edition) is all written by experts. In the case of political and sociological matter, this same information could not be had except by consultation of hundreds of blue books and expensive Government publications. The man who owns "The Illustrated Chambers's Encyclopædia" is the real intellectual economist.

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Here is a book useful to every calling, every trade, every walk in life. The young man who wants to carry on his education after he has left school or college will find it invaluable. The busy man must have it by him. The politician will find in it articles dealing with questions of such tremendous import as Free Trade, Protection, State Pensions, Education, Taxation, Woman's Suffrage, Land Acts, and Trade Statistics, all dealt with concisely and critically by experts. All these great questions, their gradual evolution and development, are fully elucidated.

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If you are a busy man or woman "The Illustrated Chambers's Encyclopædia" is a necessity for you. If you mean to be successful you cannot do without it. It will bring you all the knowledge you will ever need to supplement your daily reading. Every article contains in the fewest and the clearest words all that is known on the subject with which it deals; every subject written by an expert; and every article is up-to-date. This great work will bring you instruction in all the things you are most interested in, your own work included. It will educate you; better still, it will enable you to educate yourself.

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If you want to give your children a better chance in the battle of life than you had yourself, you must place the means of knowing within their reach.

Few fathers of ampler means deliberately provide their children with one of the cheapest and most effective instruments of education—plenty of the best books. The average private "library" is a pathetic collection of odds and ends, picked up without forethought or intelligence.

Now, your bookshelves may contain few or many works of reference, but if you have "The Illustrated Chambers's Encyclopædia" there, you have the only work of reference that is really a necessity, since within its covers is contained the material from which other works of reference are compiled.

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Three Opinions.

T. P. O'Connor, Esq., M.P., says:—

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Mr. W. Wilkins, 57, Spring Road, Kempston, Beds:—

"The books arrived on Saturday in perfect condition. I am quite satisfied with the deal. If they had been sold at double the price they would have been worth the money."

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"JOHN BULL" WINS ANOTHER LIBEL ACTION.

JURY STOPS LAMBETH GUARDIAN'S CASE.

On Friday of last week, Mr. Justice Phillimore and a special jury speedily disposed of an action for libel brought by Mr. A. F. Collins, an ex-member of the Lambeth Board of Guardians, against JOHN BULL, and Odhams Limited, its printers.

The alleged libel was contained in an "Open Letter" we addressed to Mr. Collins and published on February 6th, 1909. Counsel for the plaintiff alleged that this "Open Letter" gave a distorted version of the proceedings at meetings of the Lambeth Board of Guardians, and alleged falsely that Mr. Collins struck one of his colleagues, threatened to "thrash the whole lot of them," challenged one of them to "come outside and have a go," and threatened to "horsewhip the whole lot of them." The defence was that these statements were true in substance and in fact, and were published *bonâ fide* and in the public interest.

In the witness box the plaintiff admitted that he "slapped the Rev. Mr. Hobbs with the ends of his fingers and slightly pushed him," adding that that gentleman had very offensively called him a fool. He stated also that he had been subjected for years to veiled insults from the Guardians, and certainly stated that if any male member of that body insulted him he would thrash him, if he was big enough. In cross-examination, Mr. Hemmerde, K.C., asked Mr. Collins whether he knew that owing to the "slight push" Mr. Hobbs (a very old gentleman) had lost four of his teeth. Plaintiff said he saw a little blood, but knew nothing of the teeth. Mr. Collins added that he certainly threatened to thrash any Guardian who insulted him, and admitted that he himself was to be the sole judge of whether a remark was an insult. The impertinent answers of plaintiff to Mr. Hemmerde's questions drew from the judge a strong rebuke. "You are asking the jury to believe," said he, "that you are not a man of violent speech, and you are going the wrong way to work to do so. This is friendly counsel I am giving you, and I shall not give it again." Mr. Franklin, a member of the Board of Guardians at the time of the incidents in question, was called by the Plaintiff, but admitted that he had complained at one of the meetings that nothing but innuendoes and insults came from Mr. Collins. He had himself walked out of the Board room with almost all the other members, but had not joined them at their meeting in a smaller room when they passed a resolution calling upon Mr. Collins to retire from his chairmanship. More than one such resolution had been passed, but all of these Mr. Collins rules as out of order.

Upon the close of the plaintiff's case, the judge addressed the jury, pointing out that the plaintiff had admitted the practical accuracy of the allegations made, and asking them whether they wished to hear more of the case. After a short consultation, the jury returned a verdict for the defendants, with costs.

Counsel for the plaintiff: "May I apply for a stay of execution, with a view to an appeal?"

Mr. Justice Phillimore: "You *may* apply, but I shall not grant it."

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

"JOHN BULL'S" GREETINGS.

April 10th.—"GENERAL" BOOTH.

Surely the fountain of perennial youth
Has cast its sparkling spray on "General" Booth;
Or is it that the joy of motoring
Induces him to life so long to cling?

April 15th.—REV. SILVESTER HORNE, M.P.

Many returns, and some increase of fat—
There cannot be much harm in wishing that;
But you're in error if you think is meant,
Many returns to Britain's Parliament;
There were sufficient "preachers" there before:
I scarcely think we needed any more.

THE CASH ON DELIVERY SYSTEM.

POST OFFICE METHODS.

On November 22nd, 1909, Messrs. W. Drake and Co., of 148, Cheapside, E.C., posted a "cash on delivery" parcel addressed to Major A. W. Kitson, the Accra Club, Accra, Gold Coast, with £1 11s. 8d. to pay. Having heard nothing more about it, on January 14th, 1910, Messrs. Drake and Co. wrote to the Secretary of the General Post Office asking him to let them know when they might expect to receive the £1 11s. 8d. On January 18th, the Secretary formally acknowledged this communication.

On February 7th, Messrs. Drake and Co. wrote again, complaining that they were still without the £1 11s. 8d., and informing the Secretary that they had found out from their customer, "who has now returned to England, that the parcel was received and paid for by him on delivery." Messrs. Drake and Co. added that they thought it "quite time the money was forwarded." On February 16th, the Secretary replied to Messrs. Drake and Co.'s letter of January 14th, that the Department was satisfied that the parcel was "posted at Westbourne Grove on the 22nd of November," and "included in a mail despatched to Accra on the following day." The Secretary added that the Gold Coast Post Office had been communicated with, and that its reply "shall be communicated to you."

On Feburary 23rd, Messrs. Drake and Co. wrote again, asking for the money, and adding that they considered the delay "unreasonable, and not calculated to encourage trade through the C.O.D. system." Next day the Secretary replied that "the inquiries which it was necessary to make on the subject are not yet completed." Just a month later the Secretary informed Messrs. Drake and Co. that no doubt the £1 11s. 8d. will be paid in "due course."

Well may Messrs. Drake and Co. say they are "disgusted."

SOME CURIOUS ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, good general for country, no bread or shirts.

PIANOS on New Hire System, which includes free insurance on life of the hirer.

COWMAN wanted; must be used to cows.

GOOD COOK, £263; abstainer; good manager.

SILK BLOUSE PIECES, worth 4s. 11d., for 1s. 11d.; these cannot last long at the price.

GIRL, respectable, 18, wanted for front doorstep.

WANTED, proper Ham and Bacon Curer; pay, Rs. 30, increased if candidate is able to do work of under-secretary too.—Apply, Private Sec. to Raja, &c.

LADY SEC. wanted by busy Dentist; good teeth essential.

PHONOGRAPH, poor tone, 12 records, 3s. 6d., or exchange fretsaw.

HAIRDRESSING.—Any lady or gentleman who will give themselves over to us will be surprised at the result.

YOUTH wanted by a Gentleman aged 75.

THE COMING BUSINESS GOVERNMENT.

PEOPLE WE SHALL MISS—BUT NOT WANT!

We invite you to become a partner, see page 548.

THE WORKS OF BALZAC.

The only Complete and Unexpurgated Edition ever issued in English.

The issue in English of the only complete and unexpurgated edition of the works of Balzac by the Caxton Publishing Company is an event the importance of which will be fully understood by the book-buyer who has knowledge of book values. This Caxton edition is exquisitely illustrated by great French artists, whose names are a guarantee of their ability to embody the very spirit of the author.

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BY

Dr. Andrew Wilson.

A work that justifies its claim to be a complete guide to the attainment and preservation of health—as well as a practical teacher of the nature and symptoms of all diseases—is a work to be hailed as a household friend. Such a book is "The Modern Physician" by Dr. Andrew Wilson.

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Ambulance Work

is fully treated and lavishly illustrated.

Descriptions of every part of the frame will be found in "The Modern Physician," the skeleton muscles, digestive system, heart and lungs, brain and nervous system, organs of sense, skin, kidneys, etc., etc., being fully explained and illustrated.

In this connection the coloured "mannikins" or "dummies" in which the various organs overlap each other precisely as they do in the human body, are very useful in making the reading matter clear.

The section devoted to "The Family Medicine Chest" gives the description, uses and doses of drugs, used as drops, lotions, ointments and gargles.

The Health of Women.

Volume V. deals entirely with the Health and Diseases of Women. It will be found useful to mothers who wish their daughters to grow up into healthy women. Midwifery and the diseases of infants and children are fully treated.

There is a section devoted to Invalid Cookery, and a complete series of physicians' prescriptions will be found both reliable and useful.

The Book for the Home.

It is safe to say that in a large household embracing human items of every age or sex, the point of doubt or difficulty, the unexpected accident or emergency, could not arise that could not be immediately and satisfactorily dealt with with this splendidly practical work at hand. It saves its cost when it has been in use a very short time.

Mr. Wm. Webb, 102, Queensland Street, Liverpool:—
"'The Modern Physician' ought to be in every household in the land, and it is certainly no fault of yours should it not be so, for the price at which it is published is reasonable, and the terms of subscription exceptionally easy."

Mr. A. H. Hart, 18, Canbury Park Road, Kingston-on-Thames:—
"Three things especially impressed me; the up-to-date character of the work; the simplicity of the language used; and its practical value . . . It is creditable alike to Editor and Publisher."

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Efficiency is the note of the day in the business world, and in the "Business Encyclopædia" the practical man will find the means to this end.

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The "Business Encyclopædia" is indispensable to the young man. All contrary opinions notwithstanding, the financial prospects for well-informed men were never so good as they are now. But the young man who rises is the one who, as well as having every detail of his work at his fingers' ends, is always a point ahead. In the "Business Encyclopædia" the ambitious man will find every detail relating to the matters on which he wishes to inform himself in order to increase his value in the commercial market.

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Every article is a Business article, and when it is pointed out that there are 12,000 references in the index, it will be obvious that every detail connected with Business is dealt with, and that all matters in question can be turned up with extraordinary facility.

THREE OPINIONS.

1. MESSRS. J. S. FRY AND SONS, Bristol, write:—
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2. SIR THOMAS LIPTON:—
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THE FAILURE.

By Cora Minnett.

Away in the silent bush-land of Australia, there is a lonely hill-top covered with rough ironstone boulders, and grim gum-trees, whose gnarled branches seem a fitting shadow for the tragedy that once was played out beneath their muttering leaves.

At the foot of one huge gum stands a boulder on which a cross and a date have been rudely engraven—but no name. Beside the boulder is a mound covered with bush flowers and ferns, that Nature's warm hand has planted as though in solace for the pulseless broken heart sleeping beneath.

Who sleeps there, no one knows; but the people around the district call him the "Englishman." He was found there one morning dead, with his fair head resting against the hard rock, and his blue tired eyes gazing curiously out to the West. A young man with delicately chiselled features, and hands that had not always been accustomed to work. His clothes had once been good, but were old and worn. A "billy" and a "swag" were near, but nothing to tell who he was. Only the blue unclosed eyes and fair hair, to make the rough sympathisers realise he was English, and some last words written in that language. They found a sheet of paper clutched in one hand, on which some lines were traced:—

"I am tired and weary and broken. I want to lie down and rest. Oh, for wings, to drift out of this world, away beyond the clouds and the sun, somewhere, somewhere—to rest."

They laid him to rest at the foot of the boulder, under the grim gum-tree; but people say that sometimes, in the summer dusk, a form is seen hovering above the nameless rock, with eyes that turn to the West.

Whether this be so or not, I cannot say, but, strangely enough, when I heard the story, an irresistible impulse made me take a pencil, and write the following lines in an absolutely spontaneous manner, and with the impression that someone named "Jack Harvey" expressed the sentiments—certainly not myself. Possibly, they may convey a message from out of a long silence, for the date on the nameless rock is one in the early nineties:—

I am tired and weary and broken,
I want to lie down and rest.
The Sun in his gold and purple,
Is drifting out of the West.
And I—I'm looking and longing,
Longing to sink with his beams.
Borne to a wakeless oblivion,
Wrapped in those tender gleams.

For I'm tired and weary and broken—
Broken on life's hard facts.
Behind me a tuneless record,
Before me the old, worn tracks.
And I know them—O God—I know them,
My feet have touched every part,
Seeking some of life's chances,
Fresh hope, each time, in my heart.

Seeking, and fighting, and hoping—
Deeming my chance nigh won,
Only to find Fate push'd me
Back to where I'd begun.
And so I'm tired and weary,
I want to lie down and forget,
Forget there's a world and people,
Forget there's despair and regret.

O Clouds, that are rolling westward,
O Sun, that is mellowing low,
O Wind, that sways the big trees,
Take me away—where you go!

Is it a place where I can rest,
Where the touch of a tender hand
Would smooth the Memory of Life away,
And teach me to understand
Why I met only winter's blight,
And failure's weary fret?—
O Winds, take me up in your arms to-night,
Let me sleep and forget. Let me sleep and forget.

HUMAN DOCUMENTS.—LXXXV.

A lady, who vouches for the truth of the statements in the following letter, asks us to publish the appeal in the hope that some of our readers may respond to it. It seems an extremely sad and very deserving case:—

> The Misses ———, daughters of an officer, have for many years kept a school, but the day of the small school being past, have fallen on evil times. The scholars dwindled, until at Christmas last they were threatened with the loss of their home. A friend of their late father advanced them £10 to pay the rent, and promised to interest himself to obtain them a small pension. But these things take time. They had to move into rooms and lost their last few scholars. They are both too old to do anything else, and meantime are on the verge of starvation. Will your readers help these two poor ladies? It wants an abler pen than mine to describe their miseries—well born and gently nurtured, in their old age thrown on the mercies of the world. Work they cannot, and to beg they are ashamed.

With reference to Human Document LXXXII., a case to which our attention was directed by Mr. E. R. Stevenson, of the Palace Rooms, Hope Street, Glasgow, the generosity of our readers has enabled us to send him several sums of money, and Mr. Stevenson himself, aided by the publication of the Human Document, has canvassed his friends and now sends us particulars of several subscriptions he has received, all of which have been remitted to the person for whom they were intended. May we suggest to other readers of Human Documents that they follow the excellent example set by Mr. Stevenson? We are not always authorised to disclose the name and address of the writer of the Human Document, and this for obvious reasons, but whenever we are under obligation not to publish them we shall, of course, at all times be glad to forward the result of any collection as we do, at present, individual remittances. Those of our readers who may feel sufficient interest in the case to solicit their friends for subscriptions, as Mr. Stevenson has done, may rely upon our assurance that the facts were thoroughly sifted before we published the appeal, and that we publish none which we are not satisfied is very deserving of help.

Our readers will remember Downham, the man dismissed from the L.C.C. employment for a very trivial fault, and afterwards unjustly prosecuted by them for theft. Recently Downham went to America, and we have since received a letter from him dated Manticoke.

We think those who helped him in his trouble will read it with pleasure:—

> I have great pleasure in writing to you to tell you I arrived in New York on Thursday, March 24th, and also glad I got work on Saturday, March 26th, and a good job I have got, as handy man at the Knitting Mills. I am now hoping to be on my feet again, and shall try to get my family over here as soon as possible. I thank you very much for your kind sympathy, for it has lead up from a friend in New York reading of my case in John Bull that I have been able to get this job, so I feel I cannot thank you enough. Wishing you and your business every success.

We have received the following monies on behalf of Human Document LXXXIV., which have been remitted to her as requested:—W. J. P., 10s.; W. J. S., 2s.; H. M. C. D., 1s. Sympathetic, 2s. 6d.; R. F. G., 2s. 6d.; A. D. G., 1s.; Teddy Bear, 2s. 6d.

CORRECTLY DESCRIBED.

Her friends and she were chatting on
Their never-ending theme;
"My dears," she cried, "my summer dress
Is going to be a dream!"

And, strange to say, her statement was
Veracity itself—
Her loving husband, when approached
Refused to find the pelf!

C. V.

W. S. H. (Chorley Wood).—Mr. "John Bull," of Birmingham, has submitted to us various documents, including two cheques bearing your endorsement which satisfy us that your complaint was unfounded.

"Salcombe" (Devon) sends us 5s. for the benefit of poor Mrs. Brewer, whose little son was burnt to death in the pathetic circumstances referred to in one of last week's "Open Letters." We have had much pleasure in forwarding the amount.

Become part owner of the leading British Journal, see page 548

A Fine Exhibition And a Wonderful Exhibit.

Have you paid a visit to the Ideal Homes Exhibition at Olympia, yet? It is a show well worth seeing if you are interested in all that is useful for the home. Here you can see everything that you can possibly need, from a patent fire-lighter, costing a fraction of a farthing a-piece, to the very latest idea in tiles for the roof. Food-stuffs, decorations, stoves, baths, pianos, carpets, furniture, and all the thousand and one things that are useful and necessary for the home are shown and arranged in different sections, so that you will have no trouble whatever in finding what you wish to see.

Our present article concerns, however, only one part of the exhibition, namely, the furniture section. And thereby hangs a little bit of advice. Whatever else time stops you from seeing, don't forget to visit the stand of the Midland Furnishing Company, Ltd., of Southampton Row, Holborn, W.C. Their number is 8, but you cannot fail to see them, you have only to look for the greatest crowd, you are sure to find that it is round their exhibit. Why? Because it is the best show of the exhibition. Here the public are shown a series of rooms that cannot possibly fail to attract. There are four rooms shown, comprising: a drawing-room, a dining-room, and two bedrooms. The drawing-room is very elegant indeed. The beautiful white walls are panelled with a red-striped silk paper, and the silver moire hangings and the silver Axminster carpet, together with the dull-red of the upholstering, give an effect quite impossible to give full justice to in the limited space of a newspaper article. The exquisite effect of the room must be seen to be appreciated. Concerning the furniture in this room, the XVIII. Century style has been chosen. Here are reproductions of the work of that great master craftsman, Thomas Chippendale. We also see examples of Heppelwhite and Adams that serve to emphasise what wonderful reproductions the firm are capable of turning out.

There are one or two genuine pieces of Chippendale furniture in the room, and, comparing these with the reproductions, you will be able to see for yourself how exactly the latter are carried out. To quote from the souvenir pamphlet that the firm are presenting to all who visit the stand:—

> This room contains a beautiful mahogany cabinet of the Chippendale period, a comfortable easy-chair after the same designer. There is a large-size, comfortably upholstered settee, which, although quite modern, is of Chippendale design, but allows more comfort than a purely period piece. The small chairs are reproductions of Heppelwhite and Adams pieces. The tables are reproductions of genuine Chippendale. The carpet and hangings are included in the price. The cost of the room complete is £152 10s.

Another room that has been much admired is the Jacobean dining room, which is priced complete at the remarkably low sum of £29 17s. 6d. Although this is quite a cheap room, it serves to show what the firm can do in period furnishing at a price within the reach of all. Nowadays the man of moderate means has so often to be content with such cheap-looking and inartistic furniture, that it is indeed refreshing to find a firm selling furniture at a low cost but of as refined and tasteful a design as the highest priced goods. Now, just a few words about their dining room. The wall-paper is of an antique design, and the shelf round the room and the cream frieze above, together with the half-timbered ceiling, give an idea of quaintness that is so typical of the Jacobean period. The blue cushions and the bronze felt and curtains give the finishing touch to a beautiful room. The furniture is all of the Jacobean style, and the wonderful polish is put on in such a way that one needs the assurance of the firm's attendant before one is certain that the various pieces are not really old Jacobean of huge price, but are simply reproductions at a low modern figure.

The dining-room complete comprises the following pieces: Six small and two elbow chairs, in solid oak; a gate-leg table in oak; a dresser in the same wood; a handsome upholstered chair; a curb suite and the felt to plan, and the price complete is £29 17s. 6d.

A short idea of the cheaper of the two bedrooms will show you what the firm can really do. The price is so low as to be almost beyond belief. However, there it is, marked in bold figures, £9 12s. 6d. complete, so we can take it for granted, but that will not stop our wondering how it is possible to give such value. We will go to their booklet again for the description:—

> Inexpensive bedroom, containing oak bedroom suite, prettily inlaid, comprising wardrobe with long glass door, dressing-chest of drawers, marble-top and tiled-back washstand, and two chairs; oak bedstead, with wire spring complete, overlay, bolster and feather pillow; felt planned to the floor; and a pretty set of wash-fittings. The price complete is £9 12s. 6d.

Now for the large bedroom. Here is something quite new. That in itself is enough to make one interested, for in this age a novelty is a thing to be thankful for.

> A new style in bedroom furnishing. The price is £28 10s. complete. This room is an example of what they are able to do in art colouring. Here is a suite, comprising a wardrobe, a dressing-chest, a white marble top and back washstand, and two chairs, not painted, neither is it enamelled, but polished, in a soft Wedgwood blue. The pattern of the wall-paper gives a delicate effect. The frieze is of a delicate shade of blue, with just a faint touch of green. The felt, planned to the room, is of a very soft, dainty grey.
>
> The wooden bedstead matches exactly the suite in colour, and the bed-spread, which is draped over it, is of plain white with just a suggestion of blue in the border. The wash-fittings naturally accord with the rest of the colour scheme. The whole style of this room, with the dainty blue, and just a touch of pale green, gives an effect which is pleasing and restful. Any colour scheme can be worked, as there is no limit to the colours that they can polish.

The price of the whole room complete is £28 10s.

Now, these rooms are just a fair example of what the Midland Furnishing Co.'s whole style of furniture is like. Every article that they sell, whether large or small, is hall-marked by taste. Nothing shoddy ever leaves their warehouses, and they recommend everything that they sell. That is the secret of their wonderful success. A satisfied customer is worth more than all the advertisements that were ever put out. A few words will serve to explain their system. At the present time how many are able to put down a sum of money sufficient to furnish as they desire? We venture to say few. And those that have money are not eager to disturb their capital or investments. Now, the system of business introduced by the Midland Furnishing Co. especially appeals to the public. They do not ask you to pay ready money. By their well-known system of gradual payments any amount of furniture can be supplied without paying one single penny down.

The whole idea is simple: You select whatever you require, either personally from their showrooms, or else from their illustrated guide and catalogue. Then you inform them how you would like to pay. As you desire, they extend the payments over one, two, or three years without making one halfpenny extra charge or adding any interest whatsoever. This is very much fairer than those firms that add interest for any outstanding payments. Another point is that they do not want any deposit. By this means you are enabled to furnish entirely out of your income, in the most tasteful style and with goods of the highest quality.

Now, don't forget that if you live in the country, the firm will pay your fare to town on purchase of £30 worth and upwards. They pack and deliver country orders free, and they plan and lay carpets and linos free.

You know where their business premises are: just six doors from the Holborn Restaurant, and the Holborn Station on the Great Northern, Piccadilly and Brompton Railway, and one minute from the Museum Station of the Central London Railway, and three minutes from Oxford Street.

If you are interested enough in furniture to apply for the firm's illustrated catalogue and their booklet on the Gradual Payment system, they will be only too pleased to send them. Don't forget that if you would prefer to pay cash for anything that you might purchase they allow a discount of five per cent. Their only address is 15, 17, 19, 21 and 23, Southampton Row, Holborn, W.C. Any time that you have an hour to spare, you might look in and view their furnished flats and specimen rooms; you will not be pressed to buy.

Their motto is

TASTE

"'SPOOFING' THE ADMIRALTY."

HOW BRITAIN GIVES HER NAVAL SECRETS AWAY.

The facility offered to a German firm in erecting a huge floating crane, of observing the building of a British *Dreadnought*, suggests to us the enquiry, what opportunities or restrictions are placed upon foreigners entering His Majesty's dockyards during the building or dry-docking of His Majesty's vessels? And it is with profound indignation that we find there are practically no restrictions whatever, and that seldom—if ever—is the foreigner denied free access to our dockyards. And what, perhaps, is worst of all, is the fact that he is thus able to get into communication with subordinate officials who can supply him piecemeal with those details which, when collated, solve the problem supposed to be so carefully guarded in the archives of the Admiralty. We do not suggest that such information is or would be imparted dishonestly. Our point is that the opportunity is there, and it may be taken for granted that the foreigner is not far away.

Strangers Freely Admitted.

Now what happens when a stranger presents himself for admission at the dockyard gates is this. He either walks through with an air of importance, when, more often than not, he is allowed to pass without question, and once through the gates he could, if so disposed, spend the whole of his time casually inspecting the building of new vessels. Should, however, the stranger falter or look askance on entering, he is requested to sign his name in a book and state his business, when he is allowed to go on his way rejoicing, and at the same time it may happen that he carries with him a pocket camera.

Germany's Caution.

Exactly the reverse occurs in Germany. A foreigner there may interview the officials in the Admiralty offices, and if he should be fortunate in obtaining a permit over the yard, he is carefully accompanied by an official, who is particular to point out nothing of importance, and afterwards conducts the visitor safely off the premises. It is noticeable, however, that everything on the place is German. For with all his faults we must concede that the German is nothing if not patriotic.

Foreign Paint and Painters.

Proceeding through the British dockyards, any visitor may pass the dry docks and observe tons of paint for applying on the bottoms of His Majesty's ships bearing German and Austrian names, which, we are told, is applied on nine-tenths of the British Navy. Both of these paints are manufactured in England, but it does not appear to be anyone's business to find out whether German or Austrian capital or interest is at stake. We do hear, however, that it is only a few years since the Austrian paint was introduced, and as this was imported from abroad, they were invited by the Admiralty to manufacture their paint in England—evidently with a view of being able to answer questions in Parliament should they be asked.

Apart from any question of the British Navy being run on foreign paint, the application in some instances is being supervised by foreigners. Consider the position—we are not only indebted to the foreigner for supplying and applying the paint, but, what is worse still, we give him *carte blanche* in our dry docks to make the best use of his eyes.

Japs taking Notes.

As is well known, Armstrong's played a great part in building the Japanese Navy. During the time the vessels were in course of construction the works were simply overrun with Japanese, who made good use of their stay. So much so that they now build their own battleships, and it is safe to say that they could teach Mr. McKenna many things about our Navy.

To maintain that a firm like Armstrong's is a private concern is inaccurate, for it is subsidised in numerous ways by the Government. No extensions or improvements are undertaken on a large scale without an understanding from the Admiralty that substantial orders will be forthcoming. Armstrong's is regarded, and rightly so, as one of England's greatest battleship providers. The concern is a national asset, and is subsidised by colossal orders given at regular intervals. This being the case, it would be well if more careful supervision were exercised and fewer aliens employed in the yards. Money spent on building our battleships should go into the pockets of British workmen.

Germany's Precautions.

Germany is careful that aliens are not in a position to go to and come in her shipbuilding yards, for she knows that it is not to her advantage to have all her methods and plans divulged to her rivals. It is a curious paradox that at a works like Armstrong's, aliens of proved training and technical skill are permitted to glean whatsoever they wish, whilst a journalist is regarded with the gravest suspicion, and every effort made to prevent him acquiring information. This, no doubt, is a wise policy to adopt, but surely there is a greater necessity for adopting a similar attitude towards aliens who are in a position to turn the knowledge acquired to a more damaging account.

"Seventeen-and-Tenpenny" Men.

Another point to which the Admiralty might well pay attention after the chiefs have adjusted their private differences, is the rate of pay some of the workmen receive who are engaged on Government work. At Armstrong's the labourers receive the magnificent wage of seventeen and tenpence-halfpenny per week. They are known as seventeen-and-tenpenny men, and there is a small army of them about the yards. Though it would be inaccurate to describe the work these men perform as skilled, their duties are laborious and exacting. Does the Admiralty imagine for one moment that seventeen-and-tenpence a week is a living wage for an able-bodied man? If Mr. McKenna and his advisers think it possible for a man to maintain a wife and family on such a sum, it is time they disabused themselves of the idea. Though it may be argued that if these wages were advanced the cost of production would be correspondingly increased, the answer that the increased cost would be relatively small, that there is waste in other directions which could easily be remedied, and that these seventeen-and-tenpenny men who at the best of times are in a state of chronic poverty are a perpetual tax on the community. A Business Navy should see to it that there are no seventeen-and-tenpenny men employed on Government work.

The Collapsed German Crane at Barrow-in-Furness

An ideal present for half-a-crown, see page 548.

BRITISH GUIANA.

SOME INTERESTING FACTS.

THE ESSEQUIBO RUBBER AND TOBACCO ESTATES.

The vast and wealthy South American continent is gradually becoming entirely familiar to the European and North American investor. Argentina has for two generations been of remunerative interest. Brazil, since the overthrow of the imperial dynasty, has steadily worked herself into European favour. Of the other States forming the continent it was, of course, true until recent years that they were quarrelsome and unreliable, in the proportion as they were remote, and free from the influence of foreign capital. Even that is rapidly changing, and though at this moment on the north-western and western coast there is another of the periodical squabbles between Peru and Ecuador, and very tall talk, the region is outside the pale of general investment, the two diminutive armies are quite at liberty to indulge in the little riots which they grandly call battles, and nobody will in the end be much the worse. Moreover, there is just the possibility that the smoke of a few United States battleships will appear on the horizon, since the States have practically undertaken the policing of South American waters, and such salutary warning is sure to produce the desired result. It is far more pleasant to turn to the eastern coast, thousands of miles removed from the quarrelsome westerners, where we find the old Crown colony of

BRITISH GUIANA

The shrewd Dutchmen who sailed the Spanish Main at the time that Spain was wasting her best ships in the futile Armada venture against England, recognised in the fertile, sub-tropical region of Guiana very hopeful possibilities, and in 1580 the Dutch West India Company established a regular settlement. It was good enough for the French to covet and wrest from Holland, until in later years it was taken by the British, and formally recognised as a British possession at the Peace of 1814. One interesting item connected with the later history of the colony is that its frontier dispute with Venezuela (the northern neighbour) induced the famous Spread Eagle telegram of President Cleveland to the British Government which came as near to bringing this country into a conflict with the United States as anything has ever done. Happily, all those disputes have been settled, and the temporary prominence given to British Guiana led to many merchants and planters taking a keener interest in the 120,000 square miles lying north of the finest plantation provinces of Brazil, and stretching away to the Atlantic Ocean.

Within the next few days a company will be placed before the investing public under the title of the

ESSEQUIBO RUBBER AND TOBACCO ESTATES,

which we recommend heartily to the favourable consideration of our readers. Our reason in recommending this issue is none the less satisfactory that it is a British concern, and appeals to British investors to take advantage of the further development of a British colony. This company has secured safe Government licences over an area of 200 square miles (122,880 acres) of splendid country, extending some sixteen miles along the Essequibo River, within easy access of the shipping port of Georgetown. It will readily be seen how great an advantage this gives the company over Brazilian rubber properties which are in the remote interior.

SOIL AND CLIMATE.

The climate of British Guiana, although uniformly hot, is not unhealthy, and the hurricanes experienced in some parts of the West Indies are unknown here. The natural drainage is good, and the luxuriance of vegetation and the rapidity of growth are unequalled in any other part of the world.

Rubber trees are indigenous to the country, flourish exceedingly, and yield very prolific supplies of rubber latex on the systematic and scientific methods of tapping. Dr. Hancock, who resided in this country for about 25 years, bears the following testimony of the character of the climate:—

"Guiana is most favourably situated of any part of the world. It lies in the main tract of the equinoctial current, whilst hurricanes, so terrific and destructive amongst the West Indian Islands, are unknown here, and the equinoctial gales are extremely steady and uniform. The wooded parts and inland forests are never found to be unhealthy to either Europeans or others. There is probably no country on the Globe where the temperature is more uniform than in Guiana."

RUBBER WEALTH.

The Governor of British Guiana, Sir E. M. Hodgson, K.C.M.G., speaking at the opening of the Combined Court, 1907 Session, at Georgetown, Demerara, on February 7, 1907, said:—

"The demand in England and elsewhere for rubber has brought British Guiana under the notice as a possible rubber-producing country. Regulations for the leasing of Crown lands for rubber cultivation have been drawn up, and are now under consideration. Every endeavour will be made to make the colony attractive to persons interested in the rubber industry, so that it may obtain a share of the prosperity which in other countries the industry brings with it."

The British Colonial Office, in its annual report for 1909 on British Guiana, issued in January, 1910, states as follows:—

"Practical interest continues to be evinced in the prosecution of the rubber industry, and work has been steadily carried on at the several experimental stations by Government, where Hevea brasiliensis, Funtumia elastica, and Castillos are being cultivated in addition to the native rubber trees."

Mr. John Parks, of Georgetown, British Guiana, who has had a very long and extensive experience in the development of rubber estates in the colony, and whose advice has at various times been sought, and acted upon, by the Colonial Government, reports:—

EXTRACT FROM REPORT OF MR. JOHN PARKS.

"Georgetown, Demerara.

"The number of rubber trees to be found to the acre are from 70 to 80.

"Area of grants, 200 square miles.

"This district is also gold-bearing, and placer work is now being carried on.

"I have the honour in certifying the above statement.

"(Signed) "JOHN PARKS."

"The bulley trees to be found in the concession consist of reefs or reeves, three in number, totting to the extent of 15,000 trees to the reef; the diameter of the average trees are about 18in., and the circumference 5ft. 4in.

"The average rubber trees vary from 2ft. circumference to 8ft., with an average height of from 60ft. to 70ft. "(Signed) "JOHN PARKS."

CHIEF PRODUCTS OF THE ESTATE.—The chief products are sugar, rubber, coffee, cocoa, rice, cinnamon, cocoanuts, nutmegs, tonka beans, vanilla, sisal hemp, tobacco, plantains, etc.

The district provides an innumerable variety of indigenous products. The forests afford vast supplies of timber unsurpassed for size and durability suitable for household furniture and cabinet work, and many of the trees yield medicinal substances of great commercial value.

RUBBER TREES ON THE ESTATE.

The rubber trees, as stated, are indigenous to the country, and are mostly of the sapium variety. Sapium rubber is of excellent quality, both as regards resiliency and strengthen, and commands a price almost, if not equal, to the finest Para, and is sometimes sold as such. It is estimated that, with an efficient staff, at least 60,000 trees can be tapped the first year, 90,000 the second year, and 120,000 the third year, with further increases subsequently. It is proposed to systematically tap these trees, and the yield for the first year's tapping is estimated at from 2 to 4 lb. of rubber from each tree; but, taking the average yield per tree as 2 lbs. only, it will be seen that at least 120,000 lbs. of rubber can be collected during the current year.

The enormous increase of the export trade in balata from British Guiana is strikingly exemplified by the above figures. Balata trees yield from 10 to 20 lbs. per tree, according to age, and a total of, say, 50 tons of balata the first year and 100 tons the second year may be regarded as a likely yield. The sale price of balata is upwards of 2s. 6d. per lb., so that a large revenue from this product may be reasonably reckoned upon.

COSTS OF PRODUCTION.—Native labour is under Government regulations, and is plentiful and readily obtained. The expedition to collect rubber and balata has been organised for the present year, and the company will reap the benefit of the profit arising therefrom. Under European management the cost of rubber delivered at the shipping port of Georgetown has never exceeded 1s. per lb., including the aforesaid royalty of 1d. per lb. After adding cost of freight to London, it will be seen that the rubber can be placed on the London market at a cost of 1s. 6d. per lb. As the market price of rubber to-day is about 11s. 6d. per lb., it is apparent the profit realisable promises to be considerable.

FUTURE POLICY.—With the working capital provided by this issue it is proposed to acquire planting leases and freeholds, and to clear and plant a large quantity of rubber trees of the Para and Sapium variety, on the usual plantation system, in the meantime collecting under the licences all the available rubber and balata from the trees at present growing on the estate. Tobacco, limes, and pineapples grow most luxuriantly in this locality, and it is also proposed to select other suitable portions of the estate and to immediately clear and make plantations of these products, which give a quick and regular annual return. It is intended to plant thus:—

About	1,000	acres	with	tobacco
,,	500	,,	,,	limes.
,,	500	,,	,,	pineapples.

These areas will give a quick and regular annual return to the company whilst the balance of the estate is being developed.

The cost of clearing and planting with rubber in these districts is approximately estimated at £4 10s. per acre.

For other crops, such as tobacco, approximately £7 to £8 per acre.

PROFITS.—It is considered that the first year's results would, on a very conservative basis, be:—

Rubber (say 100,000 lbs.) at a profit of 3s. per lb.	£15,000
Balata (say 120,000 lbs.) as a profit of 1s. per lb.	6,000
	£21,000

The second year's results should be:—

Rubber (say 125,000 lbs.) at a profit of 3s. per lb.	£18,750
Balata (say 150,000 lbs.) at a profit of 1s. per lb.	7,500
Tobacco, estimated profit	2,500
	£28,750

The third year's results should be:—

Rubber (say 150,000 lbs.) at a profit of 3s. per lb.	£22,500
Balata (say 200,000 lbs.) at a profit of 1s. per lb.	10,000
Tobacco, estimated profit	5,000
Limes, estimated profit	1,500
Pineapples, estimated profit	1,500
	£40,500

It should be specially noted that in making the above calculations the price of rubber is taken at 4s. 6d. per lb., whereas the present selling price is over 11s. 6d. These figures, therefore, allow for a fall in value of more than one-half of the present price, which is considered by experts to be a most improbable event. Should the present price be maintained for any length of time the company's profits will be largly augmented.

From this property both wild and plantation rubber will be produced. On this estate both sources of production will be available. Given an efficient labour supply, good management, and with cheap transport facilities, wild rubber propositions can be worked at very substantial profits. This estate has miles of fully matured rubber trees ready to yield several pounds of rubber each per annum, as against acres possessed by many plantation companies. But it is proposed to adopt the plantation system also, by clearing gradually from the banks of the River Essequibo, and making extensive plantings of Para rubber trees. These are known to flourish admirably in British Guiana, and it is confidently anticipated that in five or six years' time such plantations will yield a large return to augment the rubber obtained from the forest trees. Hence there will be an income for the first six years, and a greatly increased one at the end of that period.

With rubber soaring to a possible 15s. per lb., and the certainty that for some years it will be utterly impossible to get enough to satisfy the ever-rising demand, it would seem that the Essequibo Company is assured of a ready fortune. We consider it in every way an excellent undertaking. One that has our best wishes, certainly one that we unhesitatingly recommend.

This company is being brought out under the same auspices as the Ceylon-Travancorr and Ceylon Rubber, Tea and General Produce Company, share in both of which stand at high premiums.

PUBLIC NUISANCES.

II.—SPIRITUAL CARPET BAGGERS.

By Tom Ormerod.

Continuing my previous remarks about public nuisances, I come next to missionaries, and, for brevity's sake, I must include under that title not only the active propagandists, but all their aiders and abettors, the officials, organisers, patrons and subscribers, from the rich cocoa manufacturer who gives as a business proposition right down to the humblest half-baked spinster who knocks a bit off the "general's" wages for the same purpose.

Just one foreword. I do not wish to be thought partial or unfair. I have all the plain man's dislike for missionaries intensified a hundred-fold, but I admit there are good missionaries—white sheep in the fold, so to speak—just as there are black sheep among race-goers or any other body of men usually considered to dwell in the bottomless well of iniquity. But now to business.

Missionary work, like Britannia in our Latin books, can be divided into three parts. Propaganda:—

1.—Against the heathen.
2.—Against rival Christains.
3.—Against the poor.

There is little to choose between the three. The first is the most expensive; the second the most unreasonable; and the last the most snobbish. Together they scale heights of absurdity marvellous even for the twentieth century.

I do not propose to give you any figures relative to the amount of money wasted annually on this hobby, because you wouldn't believe them if I did. You occasionally see some startling revelations in your John Bull about the way the money goes; and nice little sums in percentages are put before you relative to the sums that stay to line the middle-man's pocket, but this concerns me far less than it concerns the criminal courts, because, to my way of thinking, whether the money evaporates in printing, salaries, and rent, or really reaches the nigger-men, it is just as scandalously wasted.

Let us take campaigns against the heathen first, and briefly investigate the work of our friends the spiritual carpet-baggers. Personally I have always preferred a *bonâ fide* heathen to a smug Christian. Of course this is very wrong, but I am cross-grained enough to chance the "damned consequences"! Look at the question if you can (and I mean nothing irreverent) from the Deity's point of view. A beneficent Deity will judge men, after the last trump has been played, according to their chances on earth. Now, a heathen nigger has, *quâ* Christian, obviously had no chance at all; which again is just as obviously not the fault of the nigger. *Ergo*, the nigger cannot on any possible grounds be punishel by a beneficent Deity. And this only goes to show how well off the *bonâ fide* nigger is, in his natural state.

But enter on the scene a smug missionary, bringing the Word at wholesale prices. From this moment, from the Christian standpoint, the nigger has had his chance, and will be judged on an altogether different standard. Which is really rather rough on the nigger, for the chances are he sees through the missionary's little game at the outset—intercepts his monthly cheque from headquarters, or sneaks a Havana from his cigar case, say—and, summing up the whole thing as a fraud, continues unabashed in his former practices. But, as I said before, having had his chance it's now 6 to 4 on his getting damned. Wherefore, surely, the missionary's advent has made the last state of that nigger worse than the first.

But perhaps all this has been too logical for the average reader to follow! Let me get down to a good plain argument. Suppose for a moment that foreign missions do good; then, as a Briton, I protest I grudge them to the "dirty niggers." If they do good, why not do good *here*? There is plenty of raw material, surely. I have no liking for these long-distance races to capture, at vast expense, niggers with whom one has no sympathy. Charity should begin at home. Let England pull out the beam that is in her own eye before getting busy on the mote in other people's.

This disposes of foreign missions. Now about the internecine quarrels of the various sects at home. I find it hard to sit down and write calmly on this subject at all. The divine conceit of the sects is so amazing. Each big or little Bethel just knows itself to be inspired from on high, and all the rest of the world to be grovelling in ignorance. And the result of all this on the secretaries themselves! Take the following—not an imaginary case invented on purpose to excite the fury of sane people, but a fact of almost daily occurrence, while millions of honest poor are starving on the streets. On the same day there die of fatty heart A., the money-grubbing Protestant, leaving £10,000 to the Society for the Conversion of the Catholic Tallow Chandlers, and B., the sanctimonious Catholic, leaving a like sum to the Society for the Conversion of Protestant dittos. Just think of it! £20,000 literally thrown on the dung-heap to satisfy the wretched prejudices of A. or B., and not a penny of it saved for worthier uses. And then, adding insult to injury, the papers come out next morning with glaring headlines, "Large Bequests to Reglious Societies" by A. or B. respectively, according to their party colours. Religion! Faugh! No wonder the name is getting into such bad odour nowadays, and Socialism is advancing as a substitute.

And then there are the Jews—a decent enough race in all conscience, though they do cramp the odds a bit sometimes, and pull their nephew's legs about the price of jewellery. Yet every scamp who boasts a "creed" of his own makes a dead set at them. The Jews have the highest traditions; they are recognised on the same footing as other citizens in Parliament and the professions. Two-thirds of the Bible is their work, and their religion. They give us points in morality, family life, and common sense—three of the things that really do matter—and yet——! Well, just opposite my own front door (to give an apposite example) there hung lately a large placard which seared holes in my pride as an Englishman—a placard of the State Church inviting good young men to come and hear an address by some big bug in a Society for the Conversion of the Jews! How about the Jews who pass placards like these every day of their lives? What must they think about it?

Lastly, for space is not elastic, missions against the poor. Why is it that the rich do so delight in "getting at" the poor? Occasionally, of course, someone gets up and slangs the rich, but it is always a swell priest with his tongue in his cheek and the big nose for self-advertisement—and thus of no influence at all. The rich just go and laugh. But the poor can't laugh. If the gardener, the small tradesman, the servant, or the labourer does laugh, he gets the sack. At least that's my experience of the country parts.

In fact, it is amazing what insults can be safely heaped upon plain folk in the sacred name of religion. It is hard to say which party, or which sect, is the worst in this respect—Church, Catholics or Dissenters—but after much cogitation I award the palm to the last named. They are so exceptionally mouthy, and gas so much about the political "liberties" of the people that their campaigns against their other liberties are doubly objectionable. I have met practical-minded Churchmen from time to time, but never a practical-minded Dissenter—except in his private business, you say? Ah, that is a different matter!

MARRIAGE AND MONEY.

History has some strange stories to tell of the efforts made by kings and governments to encourage marriage. In the days of Louis XIV. and Louis XV., for instance, bachelors and old maids had to pay a poll-tax that was equal to three times that paid by married couples. In Prusisa, too, even as late as 1705, every young woman who was not married by the age of twenty had to pay six groschen per quarter until she found a husband. Thus was so sordid a string as money introduced into the knot of Hymen. More in the nature of an incentive was the plan adopted by King Philip of Spain. He appointed a public fund from which any girl of respectable parentage, but too poor to marry, might claim assistance enabling her to do so. Some years later, a somewhat similar provision was made by one of the big City companies. The heads of the company instituted a special charity—at first from their own pockets, but afterwards helped by sympathisers—which provided funds to be used for the purpose of giving marriage portions to poor girls residing in the city of London. This fund has long since become obsolete, although there still exist in various parts of England similar provisions which are the outcome of charitable bequests. But such bequests are seldom made nowadays, perhaps because we realise that it is less from want of means than from lack of opportunity, that so many English maids remain unwedded. For no amount of money can make up the deficiency in the numbers of men compared with women. Fortunately, however, woman is fast realising that she can lead as useful and honourable a career in the unmarried, as in the married state.

A lucrative partnership without liability, see page 548.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL.

THE MACAURA DEMONSTRATIONS

Next TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY EVENINGS, April 19 and 20.

FREE "JOHN BULL" RESERVED SEAT TICKETS.

The world's most famous Lecture-Demonstrator of Health Science is to appear at the Royal Albert Hall next Tuesday and Wednesday evenings.

People who may expect a dry-as-dust lecture on the abstruse principles of Health will be astonished and delighted with the fascinating methods of demonstration and explanation which Dr. Macaura employs.

The Press reports of the Doctor's recent meetings in the largest halls in the leading provincial cities cannot but lead the London public to expect something entirely novel and enthrallingly interesting at the Royal Albert Hall on Tuesand Wednesdays evenings, April 19 and 20.

In places like Manchester, Birmingham, Edinburgh, etc., the only limit to the success of the Macaura Lecture-Demonstrations was that the halls proved all too small to accommodate all who wished to see and hear Dr. Macaura. The seating capacity of the Albert Hall, however, is 13,000, while another few may see and hear from the huge gallery, so that Londoners have an advantage over their provincial friends in this respect.

Dr. Macaura is a graduate of the National Medical University, Chicago, and was at one time a Member of the

ROYAL INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH, LONDON.

He has lectured in all parts of the English-speaking world, and to the largest audiences that have ever attended Health Lectures.

Every reader of this paper who gives an evening to one of Dr. Macaura's two Lecture-Demonstrations at the Royal Albert Hall will be richly rewarded. He or she will learn some of the deepest secrets of Life and Health.

The Doctor is often charged with adopting what some people term "undignified methods."

To one such critic the Doctor candidly replied:—

"If to attract and interest and impress 10,000 people at a time is 'undignified,' then I will not deny I am guilty.

"If, on the other hand, to fail to attract, interest and impress less than 100 people at a time be the dignified practice of the ordinary Public Lecturer on Health, then let me choose to remain undignified—but attractive, interesting and impressive."

The Doctor's methods of healing the sick are truly sensational, soul-stirring, and apparently miraculous, although he explains the whole thing in such simple language that a child can understand. Not only so, but he invites members of his audience upon the stage, and then and there shows them how to use the machine and perform the same apparently miraculous cures themselves, astounding both operator and audience. In this practical way the Doctor is carrying out his mission of helping the sick to help themselves.

Here is a typical newspaper description of one of Dr. Macaura's unique Lecture-Demonstrations, from the *Edinburgh Evening News*:—

REMARKABLE DEMONSTRATIONS AT THE SYNOD HALL.

Advertised with a thoroughness peculiarly American, the demonstration given by Dr. Macaura, Chicago, in the Synod Hall, Castle Terrace, Edinburgh, attracted a huge audience.

Fifteen minutes before the exhibition was begun every seat was occupied, and the numerous doorways were blocked by the overflowing crowd. Outside a queue extended back from the main entrances to Grindlay Street, but when those behind got round the corner they were met with the announcement "Hall full," and there were at least as many turned away as were admitted.

Dr. Macaura, in the course of an address couched in popular language, said he did not employ electricity at all in his treatment of cases, and after giving many very wonderful and interesting experiments, he introduced the blood circulating machine invented by him, and for which he claims remarkable powers. The instrument is a mechanical device, and can be used by anyone.

What is known as the percussion movement is recognised as one of the most effective means of dealing with diseases of the deeply-seated organs. An expert masseur can obtain a speed of about 400 taps per minute, but the "blood circulator," it is claimed, can administer from 2,000 to 6,000 taps per minute, and, even at its lowest speed, its action is so penetrating that it immediately arouses into activity the most deeply seated organs.

The inventor is enthusiastic as to its efficacy in the treatment of paralysis, rheumatism, and deafness, and was quite frank about its limitations in dealing with other ailments.

Several cases were thereafter treated. The first was a man who said he had been suffering from rheumatism for 29 years, and who hobbled on to the platform supported by a stick and two attendants. After five minutes' application of the machine he was able to run up and down the platform. A sufferer from sciatica for nine years was enabled to do the same. Among the other patients treated was a little girl who was suffering from infantile paralysis, and who had to be carried on to the platform. Her right arm, which was helpless at first, she was soon able to lift above her head, and shortly afterwards she was running about with perfect freedom. Several of the cases seemed to be known to members of the audience, who were manifestly convinced by the demonstration given and the results achieved.

The foregoing newspaper report gives some idea of the extraordinary nature of Dr. Macaura's Lecture-Demonstrations.

THE ENTERTAINMENT HALF OF THE PROGRAMME.

It may be additionally helpful, however, to add that among the items in what the Doctor calls the "Entertainment Half of the Programme" will be—briefly expressed:—

"Living Radiographs."

"Illustrations of the Extraordinary Power of the Laws of Vibration."

"Playing of the organ by Vibratory Force."

"Mystifying Experiments in Physical Sciences."

Undoubtedly the most humanly interesting part of the programme will be that in which the wonderful curative powers of the "Blood Circulator" discovered by the Doctor will be put to the test on men and women who come forward for treatment.

Physicians and the Press will be also invited on the platform to witness these demonstrations of healing power.

The Doctor says he will enable rheumatic, gouty and paralysed people, scarcely able to hobble, to walk and run without their crutches or sticks almost as well as when they romped as children.

The Doctor generously defrays all the expenses of his Lecture-Demonstrations, and even gives reserved seat tickets (each of which admits two persons) Free to persons who cut out and present at the doors the following JOHN BULL reserved seat ticket.

Those who would like more than two reserved seats should take the precaution of cutting out the required number of free reserved seat tickets that are being published in JOHN BULL, the *Daily Mail*, the *Evening News* and the *Star*.

CUT HERE

JOHN BULL.

Reserved Seat Ticket.

(This Admits Two Persons.)

ROYAL ALBERT HALL.

The Macaura Lecture Demonstrations.

Tuesday & Wednesday, April 19 & 20.

Doors open 7.30. Commences at 8.

OUR POPULAR SHARE SCHEME.

ISSUE OF 200,000 READERS' SHARES OF 2/6 EACH, IN CERTIFICATES TO BEARER ENTITLING THE HOLDER TO A PREFERENTIAL DIVIDEND AT THE RATE OF 6 PER CENT. PER ANNUM, PAYABLE HALF-YEARLY, WITH THE OPTION OF EXCHANGING INTO ORDINARY SHARES.

A CO-OPERATIVE PARTNERSHIP SCHEME UNDER WHICH EVERY READER OF "JOHN BULL" MAY BECOME A PART-PROPRIETOR OF THE JOURNAL.

As announced in recent issues, we have decided to adopt the plan, which has proved so successful with other publications, of spreading a proprietary interest in our journal, by means of cheap popular Share Certificates, amongst our readers. This we shall do by the creation of 200,000 Readers' Shares of 2s. 6d. each. They represent a sum of £25,000, which is the amount of the unissued half of our 50,000 Preference Share Capital. The rights attaching to these Readers' Shares will be in all respects identical with those of the 25,000 Preference Shares already issued. Every holder will be entitled to a preferential dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, payable half-yearly; but, in addition to this, he will have the right to exchange his holding into Ordinary Shares at any time upon giving notice to the Company—thus entitling him to participate *pro rata* with the principal proprietors in the profits of the journal. Such profits, we are happy to say, are of a steadily progressive character, as will be gathered from the following report of the Directors just issued :—

The history of the journal is the story of one continuous success. Starting with a circulation of 100,000 copies—larger even then than that of most weekly journals—that figure had been practically doubled when this Company was formed in October, 1908. And now, after eighteen months, it has been quadrupled—the figure having been as high as nearly 450,000. The same remarks apply to Advertisement Income. Between £200 and £250 when the Company was formed, it has doubled, trebled, and nearly quadrupled itself—and the Directors only await the completion of certain new printing machinery now in course of erection to enable them to further increase the size of the paper and to accept a large number of further advertisements which they are at present obliged to decline. So great, indeed, is the demand for spaces that advertisers are booking up large orders in advance, one trading firm alone having recently given an order amounting to nearly £11,000—thus constituting a journalistic record.

The story of Profits is the same. As will be seen from the Accounts, they amounted, after writing off several thousand pounds of preliminary and special expenditure, to nearly £11,500 for the period ending December 31st last—a little over a year. But at the current rate they are double that amount, as will be seen from the following extracts from the Publishers' books for the first three months of the present year, compared with those of the corresponding period of last year :—

	1902.				1910.		
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
January...	400	7	5	...	1,390	17	2
February	582	1	4	...	1,480	5	4
March ...	1,023	9	5	...	2,155	7	1

It will thus be seen that the Profits for Three Months alone are more than sufficient for the entire service, for the year, of the whole of the Preference and Readers' Shares.

Treating the Share Certificates as an assured 6 per cent. security, they should always command a premium upon their face value; whilst, having regard to the valuable option which attaches to them of exchanging into Ordinary Shares, and to the fact that the Ordinary Shares of the Company should in time stand at a very high price, it is reasonable to assume that each Certificate should before long represent a Pound in value. Apart from the purely financial aspect of the matter, however, it is our desire that a large body of our readers should have a special incentive in promoting the welfare of our journal, and that there should be between them that community of proprietary interest which has worked so successfully in the case of other publications.

We have already received an enormous number of applications, but allotment will be apportioned as fairly as possible. A formal Prospectus has been filed with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies, in accordance with the requirements of the Act of Parliament, and a copy will be sent to any reader desiring the same. In the meantime the subjoined form of application may be used. It must be filled up and forwarded to the Secretary, John Bull, Ltd., 67, Long Acre, London, W.C., with the amount in full, namely 2s. 6d., in respect of each share applied for. In the event of any less number being allotted, the difference will be returned in full.

FORM OF APPLICATION.

JOHN BULL LIMITED, Issue of 200,000 Readers' Shares of 2s. 6d. each.

To the Directors,—

I hereby apply for ..... of the above-mentioned Shares, in accordance with the terms and conditions above mentioned, and of the Prospectus filed with the Registrar. I enclose £ s. d., being 2/6 per share, payment in full, in respect of this application, upon the understanding that should any less number of shares be allotted to me, the difference in the amount payable is to be returned to me in full.

Name _____

Address _____

Description _____

Date _____

THE STAMPEDE OF THE CENTAURS.

Being a replica of a curious old mural decoration recently brought to light on the walls of a famous House at Westminster.

JOHN BULL IN THE CITY.

By Verax.

Oil Shares Booming—Maikop Facile Princeps—London Maikop Corporation.

The reaction which set in last week owing to fears on the part of the Paris Bourse that chaotic National finance would bring trouble and a high Bank rate in London, is being recovered again, as monetary prospects are improving. The relapse in the Rubber shares, too, has made room for a fresh advance, and we are also, as I have anticipated for some time, in the midst of an oil share boom. My remarks of a week ago on the *Maikop Oilfields* finally set this market, which was prepared for an improvement, going, and especially the shares which I singled out as thoroughly representative of the best enterprises in that field. *Anglo-Maikop Corporation* took the lead, advancing 7-16 to 1 7-16 premium for s.s. for the Ordinary shares, while the "B" shares, to which I directed special attention, rose from 30s. to 2 5-16 for s.s. I hope my readers acted promptly, in which case they stand already at a handsome profit, but there is every prospect of a further rise. The Corporation, as I explained, controls 1,200 acres in the best positions, and will therefore be able to float off a number of subsidiaries. I also had a word to say in favour of the *Black Sea Oilfields, Ltd.*, which was one of the very first producers on the Maikop field, and is obtaining a huge supply of oil from a large fountain, the area being 270 acres. The Preference shares, £1 each, 17s. 6d. paid, have also advanced ¼ to ⅜ premium for s.s., and are no doubt bound for higher prices. The full particulars of the London *Maikop Oil Corporation, Ltd.*, a new flotation, to which I drew attention last week, will be published at the end of the week, and will be found highly promising. My readers should seek to obtain an interest in the same, but they must be prepared to pay a substantial premium. The Maikop Valley Oil Corporation has been very well received, and the shares are well worth the premium of ½, at which they are quoted. Other Maikop properties ought to be scrutinised with the greatest care. This applies even with greater force to propositions from other oilfields not so well known, and there is now before the public the *Anglo-Terek Petroleum Company, Ltd.*, dealing with the *Grossay Oilfield*, near the Caspian Sea, the *British-Roumanian Oil Company*, and the *Castellon Oil Company (Spain)*. By the way, I was the first to draw attention to Standard Oil of Mexico, and my opinion has now been confirmed by the visiting director, Col. H. Fitzgerald, C.B., who has cabled: "Very pleased, very great oilfield." The "A" shares have moved up to 7s. 6d., and are a strong market, but the "B" shares, now 1 3-16, should on this basis stand at 1¼. Petroleum Options, now 3s. 6d. to 4s., are worth attention, owing to great possibilities in the Company's oil area in Trinidad. They are also, as I have said, a cheap gamble.

New Zealand Oil.

Sir Boverton Redwood, adviser to the British Government and leading oil expert in this country, has issued a cheery report on the properties of the New Zealand Oilfields, Ltd., whilst the extract from the New Zealand Government Survey report is highly satisfactory. The Company owns 44 oil concessions, of 230 square miles, within easy transport for the oil to the markets of the world. The importance of oil in commercial quantities cannot be over estimated in that country or the British Empire. New Zealand Oilfields, now 5d. to 1s. premium, offer chances not to be missed by those who wish to be in one of the good things of the Oil share market.

Rubber Shares Decline on Difficulties in Dealing, but Rally Sharply—Raw Rubber Again Rises.

This has been a very sensational time for Rubber shares. Fresh notice was given that no facilities would be granted at the next carry over (Wednesday, 13th inst.), and some leading rubber brokers also requested their clients not to send them any orders for a week or two until their staff was able to cope with the arrears of work; as in many rubber offices, work had to be carried on till late at night, or even till morning, so that this was really a case of physical impossibilities. Prices relapsed, and some of the new shares had to go severely through the mill, but the rally, especially in the high-class shares, commenced very soon, and after a shake out which should have rendered the position much sounder, prices of these are not very far from the top prices quoted in last issue of my favourites—viz., *Linggi* at 62s., *Selangor* at 4½, *Inch Kenneth* at 18, *Vallambrosa* at 60s., *Pataling* at 3 3-16, *Kuala Lumpur* at 12, *Malacca* at 16, *Highlands* at 9, *Cicely* at 3¼. *Molesworth Bros. Rubber Estates* reacted, with others, to 4s. 6d., but are already recovering at 4s. 9d.—5s., and amongst the low-priced shares are the very cheapest. In reply to some inquiries, I may state that the chairman's remark at the meeting concerning many possibilities which it was rather too early to define as yet, referred to some most important proposals from Ceylon which would add very considerably to the profits of the Company, and for which ample funds are in hand. One of the most remarkable successes of the London Venture Corporation has been the *Crude Rubber Washing, Ltd.*, the £1 shares in which are in demand at 4 premium. This Corporation has also done remarkably well with other Rubber deals, and has the control of the Harmony Proprietary, which has exceptional possibilities, while it is also bringing out a Maikop Oil Company. It would not, therefore, be surprising to see Ventures considerably higher than the present price of 10s. 9d. to 11s. Jequié are strong at 16s., West Jequié at 6s., and Nyassa at 1½ premium. Ceylon Produce shares at 2s. 9d. to 3s. 9d., and Ceylon-Travancore at 2s. 6d.—3s. 6d. prem. are in good demand and good value at these prices. By the way, the Keraya Rubber Estates, Ltd., which was issued last week, had an extraordinary experience. Subscriptions for 180,000 shares were asked for. The applications received amounted to over 1,200,000 shares. The amount of work thrown on the bank staffs was so great that 40 clerks were engaged by one bank until midnight dealing with the enormous mass of clerical work entailed. On the second day of issue, when the list was closed, 1,100 applications were sent back; these applications were apart from those received by the second bank which was receiving applications. The price of the shares rose from 4s. to 10s. premium between Tuesday and Thursday morning. This issue seems to have been extremely well managed, and the proposition, of course, a promising one.

The Boinsu Rubber Company, Limited.

This Company, with a capital of £125,000 in 500,000 shares of 5s. each, acquires the rubber estates known as the Boinsu Lands, comprising an area of about 20 square miles in the Aowin district of the Gold Coast Colony, the River Boi running through part of it. This is a new departure, a special point being that, according to the prospectus, the existing rubber vines and trees on the estates will enable the Company to commence tapping and exporting rubber at once, and it is estimated that the first year's profits from rubber alone will amount approximately to £11,460, sufficient to pay a dividend on the capital of the Company of nearly 10 per cent. In addition, every care seems to have been taken to obtain reliable expert reports, and the policy foreshadowed of clearing the forest at the rate of about 1,000 acres per annum, and to extract all the latex from the vines and trees, subsequently planting Hevea Braziliensis, obviously commends itself. The Company, according to the prospectus, will also obtain very considerable amounts of mahogany, the profit of which is estimated at £8,330, while in the sixth year the Plantations will yield additional larger profits. This enterprise will, therefore, start under very favourable auspices, an advantage being that the capital is very moderate, considering the enormous area of rubber forests acquired. Under the circumstances, the shares will, doubtless, promptly go to a premium.

Kaffirs Firming Up—March Gold Output—Still More Native Labour—The Rhodesian Shamva Flotations—Rhodesia South, Ltd.

The outlook for Kaffir shares is brightening, chiefly through the increase in native labour, which has assumed large proportions, so that at the end of March the total number of "boys" employed in the gold, coal and diamond mines of the Transvaal reached about 200,000, the largest ever obtained, being a net increase of 32,146. The March gold output was 607,119 ozs., which is 314,497 ozs. over February. When the natives are fairly efficient both the output and the profits will be much larger. There are still excellent opportunities for buying high-class dividend payers for investment, and there are also to be bought properties in course of development and working up to dividend point, the shares in which have great potentialities. Last week the new Modder flotation, under the auspices of Messrs. Barnato, the *Government Gold Mining Area (Modderfontein) Consolidated, Ltd.*, also called by the market "*Modder Leases*," were introduced, the shares hardening at once to 1 15-16. The property is a very large one of 2,600 claims, and will not pay any Government taxes, but the Transvaal Government has an interest of 30 per cent. in the profits. Even reckoning this, however, the price per claim at £2 per share does not work out to more than £1,400 to £1,500, fully equipped, which is a great deal less than neighbouring

Every share will be a certificate to bearer. see page 548.

properties, which are capitalised at £4,000 to £5,000 per claim. There are no Vendor shares, the capital is all cash, and there seem to be fair prospects of an appreciation of the shares. *Harmony Prop.* are being quietly absorbed at about 10s. to 10s. 6d. It is announced officially that the Transvaal Government is now taking land in six of the Company's farms for the extension of the Selati Railway which will pass through them.

Rhodesians have had a set-back but should now go ahead again. But why should the *Consolidated Goldfields* commit such a blunder as to introduce their *Shamva Mines* at 3 7-16 for the £1 shares? Why not give the investing public a chance? Fortunately, it is probable that the pending *Enterprise Schist* issue will be made this week by the Rhodesia Exploration Company and the Companies associated with it at a more suitable figure, and this is expected to set the whole market going. I hear that *Amalgamated Properties of Rhodesia* will improve considerably upon their present price of 10s. 9d. to 11s. 3d., owing to some of their properties proving very valuable. *Rhodesia South, Limited*, have come into demand at 12s. 6d. per 10s. share, the capital being £80,000. The Company owns forty claims eight miles from the Bembesi Railway station, and has already obtained £4,900 in gold from 2,383 tons of ore with a small battery. The width and value of the reef have been proved 1,300ft., average assay being 18.8 dwt. The *Wankie Colliery*, situated some 200 miles from Buluwayo, has already an output of 100,000 tons per annum, and there are good prospects for the shares at 14s. per 10s. share to go much higher. *Jungles* are marking time, but will also eventually fall into line.

The Union Consolidated Copper Problem—Solution Imminent.

Recent developments of a very satisfactory nature are being cabled from the *Union Consolidated Copper Mines* in South Australia. It appears that the problem of this mine will at last be solved. A large amount of high-grade ore appears to have been developed, and as soon as the necessary amount of coal is available—hitherto delayed by the Australian coal strike—the smelter will commence working, about May 2nd. A director states that he anticipates profits at the rate of £80,000 per annum, but if only £25,000 were earned that would prove very promising to commence with. There appears to be any quantity of ore available, and, according to the official report of the South Australian Government inspector, there are many thousands of tons that could be extracted cheaply. The smelting plant was manufactured by Messrs. Fraser and Chalmers, and is capable of treating 700 tons per week. The shares have come into demand up to 12s., which compares with 56s., the highest point touched.

Murchison Associated.

Last week I pointed out the success which has attended this Company's entry into the rubber arena, and the profits arising therefrom. By cable news since to hand it looks like scoring heavily in Western Australia, as it is working on the same line of reef as that from which the Great Fingall (capital £12,500) won many millions sterling, and which put its 10s. shares to about £9. The cable records the fact that there is an improvement in value to 21 dwts., and that the reef is 3½ft. wide, coupled with the important announcement that an entirely new lode has been found giving 3 ounces of gold to the ton. The total capital of the Murchison Associated is but £50,000, only about half of which has been so far issued, and the shares are quoted under 3s., at which figure they are undoubtedly one of the best chances offering in the market.

A WORD TO MY READERS.

Since my connection with this journal, I have had many opportunities of realising both its power and its unique progress; and I hope every one of my readers will make a point of subscribing for some of the John Bull shares now being issued. I am doing so myself, and it will increase the pleasure of my work to feel that I am writing for my fellow shareholders.

LONDON TRADING BANK.

We hear rumours of some interesting litigation between this bank and a notorious financier, with whom it has apparently been in very intimate relations for some time past, and with whom it has become involved in a very considerable sum.

OUR READERS' SHARE CERTIFICATES.

Attention is called to the announcement on page 548. We are already inundated with applications, but the allotment will be, as far as practicable, on a *pro rata* basis.

JOHN BULL'S FINANCIAL LETTER-BOX.

(1) Letters containing inquiries must be addressed to the City Editor, John Bull, 2, Copthall Buildings, E.C. The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith. Anonymous communications will be disregarded.

(2) Correspondents should adopt either a nom-de-plume, or mention initials under which the replies will appear in the paper. The stocks or subjects inquired about should also be numbered.

(3) Replies are only made in the ordinary way through the columns of this journal under the above heading, and not by letter.

(4) In no circumstances will the proprietors undertake the sale or purchase of stocks or shares.

(5) If inquirers wish it, the names and addresses of respectable firms of stockbrokers, members of the London Stock Exchange, for transacting business, will be supplied to them, in which case a stamped addressed envelope must be enclosed.

(6) A Postal Order for 1/- must accompany each Financial or Insurance Enquiry.

Stockbrokers.—J. C.—What you ask for has been forwarded in your envelope.

Rubber Business.—G. K.—I send in your envelope the address of a suitable firm for dealing in rubber shares.

Rubber and Oil Shares.—Weltedacity.—I must refer you to my article. What you require has been forwarded. T. G. J.—(1) No quotations yet, and no option but to hold for the present. (2) Hold for the present, but take an opportunity to sell when you see a profit. (3 and 4) Neither of these Rubber shares stand very well, and you should take an opportunity to get out. (5) No regular quotation. (6) Ditto. What you require has been sent in your envelope. F. C.—I think you had better confine yourself now to Oil shares, in which large business is commencing. You will find suitable shares mentioned in my article. Good Rubber shares are getting so dear now that it is better to stand aside a little. What you require has been forwarded.

Four Rubbers.—Kimberley.—Nos. 2, 3, and 4 are all excellent holdings of the kind. As regards No. 1, these have but a limited market, and it would be advisable to take a profit when you can get it. A. F. S.—(1) You must have a splendid profit on Johore Lands, and ought to take it. (2) Hold these oil shares, but watch the market. You might sell the rubber shares, Nos. 2 and 3, at the first favourable opportunity. I forward what you require in your envelope.

Various Industrials.—Mac (Liverpool).—I think you might get rid of these three Industrials, and go into something more progressive. What you require has been forwarded in your envelope. Cymro.—(1) Trinidad Oilfields are a fair holding of the kind, but, of course, quite speculative. (2) You should be able to get the certificate direct from the company. (3) Liptons are a good Industrial; the last annual dividend was 8 per cent. (4) Goldsmiths and Silversmiths are quoted at 1¼, and also fair of their kind. (5) I send you the address of a suitable firm in your envelope. Kirton.—All three Industrial Preference shares mentioned are good of their kind. As regards 4 to 4½ per cent. investments, Home Rails should suit you, such as Brighton "A." North Eastern, Great Central 5 per cent. 1881 Preference. J. F.—(1) It is quite correct that the Normal Power and Ammunition Company has not yet issued any report, and it remains for shareholders to combine in order to force the directors to do so. (2) You do not say which issue you hold. The £5 A shares are quoted at 1⅛, and the £3 A shares at only ¼. Sell if you can. (3) Molesworths would now be preferable as a purchase to these Rubber shares.

Options.—Bulmer.—What you require has been forwarded in your envelope. No; you do not get your option money back again.

Building Society Bonds.—P. A. L. (Bootle).—There is no market value for these bonds, and your only course is to advertise them for sale in the Daily Press, and accept the highest offer you can get.

Mining Specs.—W. M. T.—All the shares mentioned are good specs., but you should buy them only through a member of the Stock Exchange. If you wish it, I shall be pleased to send you the address of a reliable firm. You must, of course, send a stamped addressed envelope.

Investment of £200.—A Reader of "John Bull" (Streatham).—What you require has been forwarded to you. You must be guided by the article on Rubber shares in this issue. Molly.—It is not advisable to take your money away from the Post Office Savings Bank and place it with the concern mentioned by you. You can well understand that such high interest is not to be obtained without running considerable risk. I should advise you to put the money into sound Stock Exchange securities, and, if you wish it, I will let you have the name of a respectable stockbroker, member of the Stock Exchange.

£200 5 per Cent. Investment.—Expectant.—You cannot expect to get 5 per cent. on an absolutely safe investment. Beyer Peacock are a fair Industrial, but, of course, somewhat risky. Hull and Barnsley Railway stock can still be bought to yield about 5 per cent per annum, and is very promising.

Molesworths.—Burgess.—Hold Molesworths for an improvement; and see remarks in my article. Old Bull.—The meeting was quite satisfactory, and I have every reason for anticipating an upward movement in the near future. Hold. One Time.—If you disregard temporary market fluctuations, you should come out on top with your Molesworths, and I send what you require in your letter.

10 per Cent. Investments.—K. H.—(1) There is no further news. (2) You might put the money into the following Kaffirs:—Van Ryn, Ferreira Deep, Rose Deep, Randfontein South, New Goch. (3) What you require has been forwarded in your envelope. (4) You must be aware that I advise dealing only with members of the Stock Exchange.

China Clay.—White Gate.—You ought to know more about this concern than can be gleaned in London, living in the locality. It is a pure speculation, and there is no quotation for the shares.

Brighton "A," etc.—Novice.—(1) Presumably the price would have to rise to about 9½ to give you the profit in question (2) Instead of these rubber shares, you would be far better advised to buy Molesworths, for the reasons set forth in my notes this week. I send you the address of a suitable firm through whom they can be bought.

Foreign Bonds.—Anxious (Birmingham).—(1) I should think that Japanese Bonds, which yield about 4¼ per cent. would suit you best. (2) The others are more speculative.

Eye Restorer.—Curious.—I have sent for the circular concerning this appliance, and I should think that the concern is respectable, but it is quite impossible, without the advice of an eye physician or a trial, to pronounce any judgment in the matter.

Association Bond.—R. H. C.—The documents are returned. You are quite right to be cautious, and would be well advised to deal only with one of the leading Building Societies.

Stock Exchange Lists.—R. M. L.—All the daily financial newspapers give very complete lists. *The Financier*, for instance, gives the Stock Exchange official list *in extenso* every day.

Various Investments.—Epa.—(1) No market for these Bank shares in London, but the institution is a prosperous one. (2) North Eastern Consols are certainly worth holding for a further substantial rise. (3) I do not care much for these Mining shares. (4) Hold these Rhodesians, which will improve when the Rhodesian market generally goes better. (5) Yes, through your brokers; hold the shares for a substantial improvement. (6) Buy Prestea Mines. (7) Hull and Barnsley are amongst the most promising of the cheaper Home Rails.

Maikop Oilfield.—Trader.—You might put the money into some of the Maikop shares mentioned in my article, and amongst Rubber shares you had better take the low-priced shares, such as Molesworths at about 5s. What you require has been forwarded.

Brighton "A."—Rex (Motherwell).—The lowest price touched by Brighton "A" on April 1, was 90½.

West African Mines.—Kitten.—I do not approve of the West African shares mentioned by you. You can do far better, say in Prestea Mines at about 10s., New Axim at 7s., or Taquah Central at 1s. premium. What you require has been forwarded in your envelope.

Central American.—C. M. G.—This concern is not mentioned in the usual books of reference, and I am afraid that the certificate is valueless, but you might write to the address you have and ask the question.

La Martona Rubber.—L. S. D.—I have repeatedly stated that this Company is not promising, and the shares are at a heavy discount. You must make the best terms you can with the Company.

Rhodesians and Copper Shares.—Bee Jay.—(1) Hold Rhodesia Exploration. They should go considerably higher within the next few months. (2) Hold London Wall Trust. (3) and (4) Leave Chillagoe Copper and Mungana alone.

Java Rubber, Etc.—948 Dorset.—(1) I do not think much of Petong Rubber Estates. (2) British New Guinea Development should in time become a very important property, but you will have to wait before it pays dividends. No. 3 is a second-rate Industrial Company.

New African, Etc.—Bijou.—(1) New African should be held, and many of these assets have advanced to a considerable extent. (2) Perhaps with Barrier Mines generally, these also may improve. (3) I do not think it is time yet to buy these Rhodesian shares. Amalgamated Properties of Rhodesia would be more promising. (4) No, nor (5) either.

Commercial Institute.—Anxious (Essex).—You could not consider such a Commercial Institute suitable for investment, and the whole thing looks to me very doubtful.

Investment of £300.—Trusty.—You could not possibly expect that deposits carrying 6 per cent. interest would be absolutely safe. They may or may not be all right. It is only a third-rate concern, and I should think it would be preferable to put the money into sound securities, yielding from 4 to 5 per cent. If you wish it, I will make up a list for you, and recommend you a stockbroker, member of the Stock Exchange, who can buy the stocks for you.

Chersonese and other Rubbers.—J. B. C.—You must now be prepared for occasional sharp setbacks in Rubber shares. (1) Chersonese and (4) West Jequie are better than Nos. 2 or 3, and instead of these, you had much better buy Molesworths at about 5s.

Dooigalla Rubber Shares.—Fairdeal.—Some of these are partly paid, and others are fully paid, and I am afraid that they are very difficult to sell at all. You ought not to go into these three-monthly account systems of the outside brokers. Why do you not ask them for an explanation? Why did you not seek my advice before, rather than after the purchase?

Monthly Investment Trust.—J. M. N.—I do not know what you mean by a monthly investment Trust. You certainly should have nothing to do with the Anglo-American Investment Trust. If you have only £5 or £10, you would soon lose that. You should keep it at the Post Office Savings Bank.

Kaffir Consols and other Kaffirs.—Consols.—Kaffir Consols and Salisbury Buildings (1 and 2) have now been amalgamated. Why do you not exchange your shares for the new ones. Oceana (3) and New Primrose (4) should be held for a rise.

Northern Coppers.—O. P.—You should hold Northern Coppers. With the completion of the railways, and any improvement in copper, these shares would rise.

£50 for Rubber Shares.—Novice.—Yes, Nyassa Rubber shares would be suitable, but not the others. I have forwarded, as requested, name and address of a respectable stockbroker, member of the Stock Exchange.

Sungei Matang Rubber.—Progress (Plymouth).—These are 2s. shares, 20 per cent. paid, at 1s. 6d. to 2s. premium, but I do not think much of them, and you would do better in Nyassa shares at 1⅛, or Colesworth Rubbers at about 5s., and instead of the Oil shares mentioned, you might, with advantage, substitute the shares specially mentioned in last week's issue, under the title "The Maikop Oilfield," such as Black Sea Oilfields, Limited, £1 Preference shares at ⅝—11-16 premium for special settlement, or Anglo-Maikop Corporation "B" shares at 40s.; or, again, you might wait for the issue of the London Maikop Oil Corporation Limited, which is imminent.

Representation.—Enquirer. M. B.—I think that the Liquidator is within his rights, and the only thing to do is to get into communication with a fellow-shareholder, in order that he should represent you.

Mount Molly.—Speculator.—Of course, your friend may be in the know, but there is such little market for these shares that they are hardly ever dealt in, and I cannot say that I like them. They are of £1 each fully paid.

Money for Investment.—Cautious (Central Street).—Yes, withdraw this money, and invest it in sound securities, but do not deal with outside brokers. I send in your envelope the address of a reliable firm, members of the Stock Exchange. Valentine.—For obvious reasons, Brewery stocks are not in good odour just now, and you had better invest in more attractive sections, such as Colonial Bonds, Home Railways, or Canadian Railways. It would also be better to buy direct through a broker, and I send in your envelope the address of a reliable firm.

Various Speculations.—W. M. B (Bradford).—(1) Highly speculative and not very attractive. (2) Of better standing, but high enough. (3) Mashonaland Consolidated would have a chance again when the Rhodesian market generally picks up. (4) Roodepoort United are a good holding amongst the better-class Kaffirs. What you ask for has been duly forwarded to you.

Petroleums.—Careful.—(1) These shares have already had a substantial rise, but may go higher still. I send what you require. (2) I prefer dealing with members of the Stock Exchange. As regards Rubbers, Molesworths are amongst the pick of the bunch..

Various.—Idris.—(1 and 2) Only very small amounts. (3) On distinct reactions, yes. (4) Certainly, Molesworths are very cheap. (5) I send what you require in your envelope.

Industrials.—Chandos.—(1) Not very progressive, and you should take an opportunity to sell. (2) Sell if you can, but you might find this a difficult task. (3) There is no quotation for the shares. What you require has been duly despatched to you.

Gilt-edged Investments.—Horseshoe.—I am somewhat reluctant to advise you to sell these gilt-edged securities at such a heavy loss, and you must understand that higher yield means greater risk. The latter, however, does not apply to the leading Colonial Government bonds, amongst which, for instance, Western Australian 3½ per cent., at about 97, are very attractive. You can also get a yield up to 5 per cent. per annum upon Home Railway stocks, with a good chance of a rise in capital value.

Small Investment.—H. W. B.—I send what you require in your letter, and instead of making the deposits in question you had better go into sound securities. Amongst such, Western Australian 3½ per cent. Bonds at 97 are worthy of attention.

Rubbers, Oils.—Juno.—Instead of either of these shares buy yourself some Molesworth Rubbers. What you require has been forwarded in your envelope. A.F.S.—Take your profits on No. 1, and get rid of the others, if you can. What you require has been forwarded in your envelope.

Brokers.—Experiment.—What you require has been forwarded in your envelope. Deal only with members of the Stock Exchange. You can get books in question from Messrs. Effingham Wilson, publishers, Royal Exchange, London, E.C.

Rubbers, Kaffirs.—A. B. C.—Deal only with members of the Stock Exchange, and I send you the address of a reliable firm. Molesworth Rubbers and Harmony Props. would be most suitable for you.

Premium Bonds.—La Mascotte.—Have nothing to do with this Paris firm, who charge excessive rates. If you send a stamped addressed envelope, I will be pleased to forward you the address of a respectable firm of foreign bankers in London, who deal in such bonds at market prices.

Investment Brokers.—Argus.—I do not recommend the connection. You should deal only with a member of the London Stock Exchange.

West Africans and Kaffirs.—A. J. M.—(1) West Africans are, of course, speculative, but Prestea Mines at about 10s. are very promising. (2) Amongst Kaffir shares, you would naturally invest the £100 in dividend payers. For instance, Meyer and Charlton yield at present 10 per cent., or Langlaagte Estate, which would yield about the same, or Randfontein South, which yield at present 8 per cent., and will at the end of the present year, with a much larger output, yield 12 per cent. What you require has been forwarded, and your broker will also be able to advise you on these Mining shares.

Oil, Rubber and Pictorial.—Shippey.—It is not much use first to buy stocks and then ask my opinion. (1) Oil shares may come right in time. (2) This is highly speculative. (3) Such newspaper investments are not usually very substantial. At all events, you will have to have some patience, but they should come right in the end.

Stockbrokers' Charges.—Rubberette.—(1) What you require has been forwarded. (2) It is impossible to give a general rule, as you would have to buy more shares in one than in another company, but you would have to be prepared to pay at least £20, and in the case of rubber you would have to pay cash. I advise you not to go into the "Important Guaranteed Rubber Deals" of the British Investment Alliance and General Trust of Southwark Street, London Bridge. This is an outside concern.

Small Investments.—Rosy. W.—You cannot invest such small amounts as you propose in Nos. 1, 2 and 3. You had better put the money into one particular stock, about which your stockbroker will advise you. What you require has been forwarded.

Guarantee Trust.—M. C.—The best thing you can do is to see the Liquidator personally, and come to some arrangement with him.

Mines, Etc.—H. W. P.—The various Kaffirs and Rhodesians, Nos. 1 to 6, should be held. They will go up directly the market as a whole braces up. As regards John Bull shares, I have forwarded your application to the Company to be dealt with.

£1,500 in 3½ Per Cent. Securities.—Donny.—Your requirements should be met by the following selection of gilt-edged securities:—London County Council 3½ per cent. at 100, Western Australian 3½ per cent. at 97, New Zealand 3½ per cent. at 98, Great Central 3½ per cent. Second Debentures at 91, Buenos Ayres Great Southern 4 per cent. Debenture stock at 105.

(We regret we are obliged to hold over a large number of replies.)

INSURANCE REPLIES.

Insurance Enquiries should be addressed Insurance Editor, 67, Long Acre, W.C.

The Empire Guarantee and Insurance Corporation.—A. T. (Birmingham).—This company was established in 1900 with a capital of half a million, of which £200,000 has been subscribed. It is obvious from what you say that they are in want of capital, but as to whether you should pay the calls or not you have no option. They must be paid. The denial of the secretary that they intended to make a call on the eve of making it justifies your complaint, but sometimes directors do not wish a decision of this kind to be made known at the moment when inquiry is made.

Insurance Tables.—W. W. (Alfreton).—The address is 129, Cannon Street, E.C.

The Absolute Life Assurance Company.—F. W. McE. (Brighton).—We do not know what can be done to expedite the liquidation. There is always great delay in these matters.

Purchase of Annuity.—A. S. (Alyth).—In our answer to you a printer's error made us write £11 14s. 2d. This should have been £114 9s., or, if payable half-yearly, £114 14s.

Insurable Interest.—K. A. H. (Peckham).—You have the remedy in your own hands—refuse to pay the premiums and the policy drops.

National Benefit Trust.—Benefit (Paignton).—We have never referred to the trust in the way you indicate. It is old established and quite respectable.

The Industrial Indemnity Corporation.—S. C. (Dublin).—We cannot advise you to make the selection suggested.

National Provident Institution.—Endowment (Islington).—The company is in the front rank, but there are one or two other companies that would give you a slightly better return.

Surrender Value.—Assured Correspondent (Sunderland).—We should think the offer of £378 cash a very fair one.

Claim for Accident.—C. W. F. (Lewisham).—A has no claim upon B's insurance company in the circumstances you describe, since he accepted from A a sum down in full settlement of all claims. It is no answer to that to say that A has since satisfied himself that the sum offered was inadequate; he should have thought of that before accepting it.

British Crown Assurance Corporation.—Cinderella (Guildford).—It only started in 1907. It does not do life business.

London and Provincial Assurance Company.—Arbor (Arbroath).—We see no good reason why you should not accept the proposal to allow your certificate for £350 in the Provincial Homes Investment Company to be transferred to the London and Provincial Assurance Company. The company is "a sound one, and managed on proper lines." We do not see that your position has been in any way worsened by the transfer.

"An Adequate Income."—Annuitant (Swymbridge).—We think the scheme a sound one. It largely rests upon the amount of interest that can be earned upon the funds of a life office, and the Colonial companies are able to earn a comparatively high rate of interest upon their funds.

Insurance Shares.—Novice.—We are inclined to advise you to sell these shares, but you will find this rather a difficult task, as there is no quotation in London for them, and you will have to try Edinburgh or Glasgow. Perhaps your broker has connections in these centres.

Transfer of Certificate.—R. K. (Bristol).—We can quite understand your annoyance at the constant changes in the proprietary body with whom you are insured. We advise you to insure with a sounder company. We return your certificate under cover.

The Unity Assurance Company, Ltd.—T. P. (Padiham).—We agree. Apparently the company is in a nebulous condition, and the papers you send us, which we have returned under cover, do not suggest that it offers the public anything it cannot get better elsewhere.

Self Help Insurance Company.—Cavern (Chelsea).—The answer is in the affirmative.

North and South Insurance Corporation.—With reference to a remark made in these columns recently, the General Manager and Secretary writes to us to say that the directors anticipate increasing the subscribed capital by a further important share allotment in the course of a few weeks' time. The statutory meeting was held on the 17th February, and the formation expenses have come out below £1,400, which must be considered satisfactory.

Refuge Insurance Company.—S. M. (Hendon).—If you will send us all the correspondence you had with the company as to your claim we will see what we can do in the matter.

Prudential Insurance Company.—W. B. T. (Thetford).—We do not think it likely the company will refund you the sums you have paid in, but you should make application to it direct.

Provincial Homes.—E. P. (Newport).—Transactions of the kind you name are very objectionable, and you cannot be surprised if yours has lead to complications. Our advice to you is to go to the Office and clear up the matter by stating the whole of the facts.

Salvation Army Assurance Company.—A Poor Policyholder.—We neither know, nor is it our business to enquire, whether the manager of the company is "living with all the luxuries of a country squire." Nor do you indicate in what way you have been misled by the company. If you have a legitimate grievance, and will tell us in plain English what it is, we will enquire into it.

Ten shillings will make a whole family "JOHN BULL" Proprietors, see page 548.

A Page which should be Read by everyone interested in Cycling.

The other day three of my Friends came and said to me, "Why do you ride a high-priced Cycle? Is it not a bit of Extravagance? Do you know that you can buy Cycles for less than half what that one cost? Why pay more?"

And then I turned on them something like this—

"I am surprised at you, Smith.—You are one of the best-dressed men I know.—Do you get your Clothes from the SAME PLACE as your Butcher Boy? Then why should I get my Bicycle?

"And YOU, Brown.—You call yourself a Judge of a Horse.—Do you go and buy a Horse on Price? No!—You want to see SOME BREEDING about your Horse.—Why should I not require some breeding about my Bicycle?

"And you—YOU—Robinson, you call yourself a Sportsman.—Do you buy your Guns from the Manufacturer of the £5 variety? Then why should I buy my Bicycle from that Class of Maker?

And then I touched the Accelerator and let my Talking Machine go—

"One of the stupid Features of this Age is a fondness for being HAD by the smart Salesman—a fondness for buying on Price and trusting to HIM for Quality. A really good Bicycle is about the best invesment one can have—it stamps a Man more than your Clothes, Smith—than your Horse, Brown—or than your Guns, Robinson.

"I know most of the so-called good Bicycles are merely the £5 5s. or £6 6s. ones with a little extra finish, and a great deal of extra Profit, and are not worth the Extra. But look at my Sunbeam, with the Little Oil Bath. It is made in a Factory DEVOTED ENTIRELY TO BEST WORK. It is built where no Cycles below £12 12s. are made—it is a real Thoroughbred. See how easily it runs, how comfortably it rides, what little care it needs, and how long it has lasted me."

This conversation set me thinking that there may be many prospective Purchasers of Bicycles who need the Case for the Good Bicycle set before them, and so I will add a few words to what I have already said.

Here are some of the advantages of buying a genuine good Bicycle:—

1.—The Saving of Exertion.

There are many Purchasers who imagine that all Bicycles run equally well. This is very far from being the case. Even in Bicycles of the same Make there is a variation, while the difference in running between a Sunbeam and a cheap Machine will usually amount to many Miles an Hour. Or, to put it another way—A Rider will often have to use twice the exertion to cycle ten miles on a common Cycle than he would require to ride the same distance on a Sunbeam.

Besides this saving of actual Exertion, there is a saving of Comfort on a Sunbeam. Its Saddle, for example, has cost its Maker three times as much as the Saddle of the six-guinea Bicycle, but it saves its Rider from the soreness and bumping which is often so pronounced a feature of the cheaper one. Or its Brakes—costing six times as much as those on the low-priced Bicycles—they really do control and regulate the speed of the Bicycle in an efficient and comfortable manner. Since the introduction of the Free Wheel, how many Riders have lost their lives from common, unreliable Brakes?

And so I can go on taking point by point of the Bicycle, and as I compare the saving with the extra cost you will each time see that the Sunbeam gives VALUE for its money.

2.—The Saving of Trouble.

This is becoming more and more attractive to Cyclists. We live in a Busy Age. We have not the Time to spend on cleaning and adjusting our Machines that People had twenty years ago.

Cleaning a Bicycle is not a pleasant occupation at best, and cleaning and oiling the Chain is the most unpleasant part of it. Experts tell us that the only effective way to clean and lubricate a naked Chain is to take it off its Cogs, and FRY IN TALLOW!!!—A sort of operation that occupies one for the whole of a half Holiday.

The Sunbeam's Chain and Driving Bearings never need cleaning or oiling; they are enclosed in their celebrated Little Oil Bath Gear Case. The Case keeps them clean, the Little Oil Bath inside automatically lubricates them.

The ideal conditions under which Sunbeam Bearings and Chain run, further saves the Rider from having to make adjustments.—The Chain literally only requires adjusting once in a lifetime.

On the other hand, the number of Breakdowns, Adjustments and Repairs necessary to the modern "cheap" Bicycles cause an infinitude of Trouble and Expense—Just when a Cyclist most wants his machine, something goes wrong, and the whole Holiday is spoilt.

What can one expect from Cycle Chains that sell AT A PROFIT at threepence *per foot*—no wonder they stretch and need adjustment; or from Pedals at eighteenpence per pair; or from Free Wheels with less than one-sixth of the proper number of Balls? And then there are the evils of inferior quality Tyres which produce whole Chapters of Accidents.

Altogether, adding up the annual Expenditure and Trouble of the "Bargain" Bicycle, and reflecting that the Sunbeam is free from all these things, there can be no question that the real Economy rests with this Good Bicycle.

3.—The Saving of Money.

But the word Economy brings us to the third Stage of our Story—Beside wearing very rapidly, the Bicycles with the threepenny Chains and eighteenpenny Pedals, of necessity wear OUT very rapidly. A Sunbeam will outlast half a dozen of them. And it must be borne in mind that this Machine is always a saleable Article. Cases often occur of Sunbeams fetching more than the "cheap" Bicycles when they have been many years in use. Others fetch the price of the so-called good Coventry makes after three years' wear.

The fact that no second grade new Sunbeams are made increases the demand for these Cycles second hand. They always fetch a good Price, and are always easy to sell—should their Riders ever want to sell them.

I have said sufficient to justify my original contention in favour of the good Sunbeam Bicycle, and I should recommend all who are interested in this question to send a postcard to John Marston, Limited, 21, Sunbeamland, Wolverhampton, for their new illustrated Catalogue. They will find on studying it that this whole Bicycle is quite different to others, for every Component Part of it is made for Sunbeams, and for Sunbeams alone.—[Advt.]

MR. JUSTICE GINGHAM'S FAREWELL.

AFFECTING SCENES.

(Exclusive and Inaccurate Report.)

By Richard Morton.

The Court was appropriately draped in black when, for the last time, Sir James Gingham took his seat.

His lordship was deeply affected, and for a long time could only restrain his emotions with difficulty and a pocket-handkerchief. With a great effort he mastered his feelings and addressed himself to the Attorney-General as representing the Bar, but throughout his farewell speech he appeared to be on the point of breaking down, and several times was so overcome that he could hardly go on speaking.

What he said was nothing like this :—

"Mr. Attorney: I must thank you for the trouble you have taken in coming this morning to hear the few words I have to say, but I might have known that the gentlemen of the Bar would be only too ready to assist me to the very end in maintaining the time-worn and insincere traditions of the profession which we have the honour to adorn.

"The time has come for me to say good-bye, and if I do so with an affectation of supreme sorrow and infinite regret, it is because such an expression of my feelings is expected from me at such a time as this, and it would not become me to break away from precedent, whatever may be my private opinion of the matter. These last words of pathetic farewell from the Bench have come to be part and parcel of our judicial procedure, and it is my earnest desire to preserve to the best of my ability the continuity of an interesting and picturesque custom.

"Forty years ago I was called to the Bar of my Inn. Of these forty years thirteen were spent as a junior with a practice that was always large, fourteen as a leader with an income that was ever considerable, if not colossal, and nearly thirteen years have been spent on the Bench at a thumping good salary at which even a rich man like myself does not care to sneeze. And now, before my time, I am about to retire on a pension to which, in the ordinary course of things, I might not be considered to be entitled, but which respect for the best traditions of my profession would not allow me to decline.

"After forty years of work for which I have been remarkably well remunerated, it is a blessed thing to remember that I shall receive, until the end of my days, this most substantial pension for doing nothing at all.

"I have had a long innings, and have been permitted to lay by much store of honey, but now I have that tired feeling. It is time I took a rest, and my place is wanted for somebody else. With much emotion I must confess I can afford to take that rest which has been thrust upon me, and I am to be suitably remunerated for the pain of taking it. I am tired, gentlemen, but, when I say I am tired, I am confident of being still strong enough to hold out my hand every quarter-day.

"It is perhaps right that I should declare, on bidding good-bye to this Court, how great a mystery it is to me that I ever came here at all. I was a stranger to the Court and its work, and I knew nothing whatever about its practice. Now, I step aside for a successor who knows just as much. Therefore, I thank my colleagues for the very necessary assistance they have rendered at all times.

"Also I wish to thank the Press, that mighty engine to which the best of us must be civil, for the things it has said about me, as well as for the things it might have said, but didn't. Also I wish to thank my Clerk, who for thirty years has kept an ever-watchful eye on the fee-book.

"My last words on this most moist and melancholy occasion must be addressed to the great Bar of England. I have loved my circuit and my profession, out of which I have managed to do pretty well. To every one of you, gentlemen, I wish work and prosperity, and may your thoughts, acts and dealings ever contribute to the furtherance of the interests of that profession which is the glory of this land. To that profession of yours and mine, I have, in my humble way, ever been true, and even in my retirement I feel that I am still acting for the best and helping the good cause as much as I help myself. And so, to the law that we love, and to the public on whom we live, farewell."

With a handkerchief to his eyes, a gulp in his throat, and his tongue in his cheek, his lordship then retired.

Chairman

A fine Tobacco

TO the pipe smoker of taste the smoking of a really fine tobacco means much. It covers all that there is in smoking enjoyment—aroma, coolness, evenness of combustion and that subtle, but real and most elusive, yet most essential quality, termed flavour, for lack of a better description.

These properties, rarely found in combination, are always found in *Chairman* making it a really fine tobacco—always the same, always enjoyable.

Boardman's

is the same tobacco milder, and

Recorder

the same, but fuller flavoured.

Sold everywhere at **6d.** *per oz.*

If

The CHAIRMAN PIPE FILLER is self-contained, small, and convenient, and can be used for *every* tobacco. With it the pipe can be filled from the pouch or packet.

1/- *everywhere.*

R. J. LEA, Ltd.,
Manchester.

A Prospectus has been filed with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies, which states amongst other things that :—

THE SUBSCRIPTION LIST WILL OPEN ON THURSDAY, THE 14th DAY OF APRIL, 1910, AND CLOSE ON OR BEFORE SATURDAY, THE 16th DAY OF APRIL, 1910, AT 12 O'CLOCK NOON.

THE BROOKLANDS SELANGOR RUBBER CO., LTD.

(Incorporated under the Companies (Consolidation) Act, 1908.)

CAPITAL - - - - £100,000,

Divided into 1,000,000 Shares of 2s. each.

ISSUE AT PAR OF 860,000 SHARES,

Of which 160,000 Shares will be issued as fully paid in part payment of purchase consideration.

700,000 SHARES ARE NOW OFFERED FOR SUBSCRIPTION.

PAYABLE:—
3d. PER SHARE ON APPLICATION.
6d. „ „ ALLOTMENT.
3d. „ „ THE 1st JUNE.

And the balance as and when required, at least seven days' notice being given of any Calls, but it is not anticipated that any further Call will be made before 1st January, 1911.

DIRECTORS.

EDGAR GEORGE MONEY, 3 and 4, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C., Director of Kampong Kuantan Rubber Co., Ltd.

JOHN GIBSON, Planter and Estate Visiting Agent, Klang, Selangor, Federated Malay States.

ALFRED REID VENNING, I.S.O., late Colonial Secretary, Federated Malay States, Warders, Tonbridge, Director of Sungei Choh Rubber Estate Co., Ltd.

BANKERS.

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA AND CHINA, 32, Bishopsgate Street Within, E.C.

SOLICITORS.

PARKER, GARRETT AND CO., St. Michael's Rectory, Cornhill, London, E.C.

BROKERS.

LEEMING BROS., 2 and 3, Old Broad Street, London, E.C.

PRODUCE BROKERS.

W. J. AND H. THOMPSON, 38, Mincing Lane, E.C.

AUDITORS.

GEORGE A. TOUCHE AND CO., Basildon House, 7-11, Moorgate Street, E.C.

AGENTS, SECRETARIES, AND REGISTERED OFFICES.

BOUSTEAD BROTHERS, 3 and 4, Fenchurch Street, E.C.

The Company has been formed to acquire, work and develop the Brooklands and the adjoining property known as Olak Limpit or Cromlix Estates, situated in the Langkat District, Jugra, in the State of Selangor, Federated Malay States.

TITLES.—The properties are held under approved grants from the Government of the Federated Malay States, in perpetuity, at an annual quit rent of $1 per acre for the first six years, dating from the dates of the grants, and thereafter the quit rent is $4 per acre per annum. The quit rent after the sixth year, in case of any land planted with Cocoanuts is $2 per acre per annum.

AREA AND SITUATION.—The total area of the Estate is 3,000 acres. The property is well situated, and has excellent drainage facilities. It has a cart road frontage on two sides, and is thus easy of access, and possesses every facility for transport. The property is at the junction of the Klang-Banga Road, 17 miles from Klang, and is intersected by the Langkat River.

REPORTS.—The property has been regularly visited and reported upon by Mr. John Gibson (the well-known Visiting Agent in Selangor) and the statements made in this Prospectus are based on his reports, which may be seen at the Offices of the Company.

Mr. F. Harvey, of Pataling Estate, Selangor, who is one of the leading experts in the Federated Malay States, has this month visited the property, and has sent a favourable cable report on the same.

LAND AND SOIL.—The lay of the land is flat, with ample free board and good drainage to the Langkat River. The soil is deep alluvial, eminently suited to the cultivation of Para Rubber, Cocoanuts and Coffee. Its suitability for cocoanuts is a special feature of this Company.

THE PLANTED AREA is as follows:—

Planted in Para Rubber:—

June, 1908	56	acres planted	28 ft.	by 14 ft.
July, 1908	43	„	„	„
Aug., 1908	46	„	„	„
Sept., 1908	100	„	„	„
Oct., 1908	24	„	„	„
Aug., 1909	38	„	24 ft.	by 14 ft.
„	19	„	15 ft.	by 15 ft.
Sept., 1909	24	„	„	„
„	50	„	30 ft.	by 15 ft.
Oct. to Dec. 1909	100	„	„	„
	500	acres.		
Drained and felled	240			
Drained ready for felling	150			
	390			
VIRGIN FOREST	2,110			
	3,000	acres.		

The whole of the above 500 acres planted in rubber has recently been interplanted with Coffee Robusta as a catch crop.

RUBBER CULTIVATION.—The growth and general appearance of the Rubber is excellent, and the Coffee planted is looking well. The property is in good condition, the cultivated area is maintained clean and free from weeds, and is well roaded and drained.

LABOUR.—There is established on the property a good Tamil labour force, and steps are being taken, in anticipation of the extensions contemplated, to increase the same. There is also always available plenty of Malay labour for felling and draining work, a Malay Village being opposite to the property, and Malay labour in this neighbourhood being abundant. The health of the labour force is excellent, and the district is generally a very healthy one.

EXTENSIONS OF CULTIVATION.—It is proposed to proceed at once to plant up a further 1,000 acres in Para Rubber. The Directors have also in view the planting of 750 acres in Cocoanuts for which a portion of the land is reported to be very suitable, and to interplant these extensions where suitable with Coffee Robusta.

The present issue will, it is estimated, make available the sum of £43,000 for working Capital for the purposes of the development of the planted acreage, and it is estimated that this sum should also be sufficient to carry out the programme of extensions above referred to.

ESTIMATED CROPS AND PROFITS.—The following are Mr. John Gibson's Estimates of Crops and profits:—

	Estimated yield of Rubber.	Profit per lb.	Profit on Rubber.	Profit on Coffee.	Total.
			£	£	£
1911	—	—	—	362	362
1912	83,625 lbs.	3s. 0d.	3,543	1,117	4,660
1913	63,200 „	2s. 6d.	8,525	1,995	10,520
1914	178,250 „	2s. 6d.	22,280	3,025	25,305
1915	207,250 „	2s. 3d.	36,674	3,355	40,029
1916	257,250 „	2s. 0d.	45,725	3,355	49,080

The area to be planted in Cocoanuts will not be in bearing within the years for which the above profits are estimated.

PURCHASE PRICE.—The Fenchurch Investment Syndicate, Limited, of 3 and 4, Fenchurch Street, E.C., who are the Vendors to and promoters of the Company have agreed to sell the property to the Company for the sum of £35,000, payable as to £19,000 in cash and £16,000 in fully paid Ordinary Shares of the Company at par. No part of the purchase consideration is payable in respect of goodwill.

The Fenchurch Investment Syndicate, Limited, who are selling to the Company at a profit of £2,500, payable as to £1,500 in cash, and £1,000 in Shares, have agreed to purchase the said Estates for sums amounting in the aggregate to £32,500, payable as to £17,500 in cash, and as to £15,000 in shares.

The preliminary expenses of forming the Company down to the first general allotment of shares, excluding the brokerage on shares and underwriting commission, are estimated to amount to £3,500. Under the Agreement (c) referred to in the full Prospectus, the Fenchurch Investment Syndicate, Limited, undertake to pay the said preliminary expenses in consideration of the payment to them by the Company of that sum. Any excess of the expenses over that sum will be borne by the Syndicate, and any surplus will be retained by them.

Mr. John Gibson is interested in the sale of the property to the Company as one of the original owners of Brooklands Estates, and receives of the purchase price to be paid by the Company £6,000 in shares and £3,000 in cash.

Mr. Gibson has visited and generally supervised the property since its commencement, and for that reason, and having regard to his reputation as a Rubber Planter and Visiting Agent of Rubber Estates of great experience, the Directors have considered themselves justified in accepting his report, which has since been endorsed by Mr. Harvey, of Pataling Estate.

Mr. Gibson (who joins the Board of the Company) will act as Managing Director of the Company in Selangor.

A copy of the Memorandum of Association, with the names, addresses, and descriptions of the signatories and the number of shares subscribed for by them, is printed in the fold of the Prospectus, and forms part of it.

Copies of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and of the above-mentioned Contracts and Reports, can be seen at the Offices of the Solicitors of the Company at any time during business hours while the Subscription List is open.

Applications for Shares should be made on the form accompanying the Prospectus and sent to the Company's Bankers, with the amount payable on application. Where no allotment is made the application moneys will be returned in full, and where the number of shares allotted is less than the number applied for, the balance of the application moneys will be applied towards the amount payable on allotment, and any excess will be returned to the applicant. Failure to pay any instalment when due will render previous payments liable to forfeiture.

Copies of the Full Prospectus and Forms of Application for Shares can be obtained from the Company's Bankers, Solicitors, and Brokers, and at the Offices of the Company.

A Brokerage at the rate of 3d. per 10 Shares will be paid by the Company on Shares applied for and allotted on applications identified as coming through Brokers and approved Agents.

Application will be made to the Committee of the London Stock Exchange for a settlement in the Shares of the Company

THE JOHN BULL LEAGUE.

President—Horatio Bottomley, Esq., M.P.

Objects: To stamp out Cant and Self-Righteousness; to abolish Cranks and Killjoys; to create a robust and self-reliant Public Opinion; and to promote a Common Sense, Business Government for a Common Sense, Business People.

OUR SMOKING CONCERT.

On Friday of last week, the League "held" a smoking concert at the King's Hall, Holborn Restaurant. Every seat was filled, and when the President took the Chair, he received a hearty greeting. The whole thing passed off in the most enjoyable manner, without a hitch of any kind. Commencing with the singing of the League Song, by Mr. Leo Stormont—the whole company joining heartily in the chorus—the programme went with a swing throughout. With such an array of talent, it would be invidious to make distinctions, but a special word of thanks must be accorded to Miss Ada Reeve, who generously gave her services, and fairly sent the great audience into hysterics of joy by her superb contributions. We have never seen her in better form. Like every true genius, she grows younger as time goes on, and, if possible, cleverer. Mr. Harry Dearth, Miss Decima Moore, Miss Lily Clare, Miss Helen Marr, Miss Constance Hyem and dainty Rhita Rhylle all contributed to the success of the evening.

OUR PORTSMOUTH MEETING.

We commence our Spring Provincial Campaign to-morrow (Friday) night at the Town Hall, Portsmouth. Judging by the reports furnished by our Local Secretaries, who are working very hard to make the meeting a great success, we shall have an enormous demonstration. We are departing from our usual custom of issuing tickets, and admission will be free to all—first come, first served. The doors will open at 7 p.m., and from that hour until the President takes the chair at 8 o'clock a recital will be given on the Grand Organ.

As will be seen in the announcement on the first page of this issue, the audience will have the pleasure of hearing Mr. Leo Stormont's magnificent rendering of the John Bull League Song, with which he scored another success at our Smoking Concert last Friday.

We are informed that the President's welcome to Portsmouth will be particularly cordial, for, as is well known, he has always taken the keenest interest in naval matters. His recent activity in the House of Commons in connection with the construction of H.M.S. *Thunderer* by the Thames Ironworks Company, called forth some very appreciative remarks from Lord Charles Beresford, one of the local M.P.'s, who said "all parties should be grateful to Mr. Bottomley for the service he had rendered in this matter."

The joint Local Secretaries are Mr. H. Turnbull, of The Hospital, Hilsea, and Mr. Edward Rooms, of 405, Commercial Road, Portsmouth, who will be pleased to give any information in reference to the meeting.

OUR SHEFFIELD MEETING.

Arrangements are well in hand for this meeting, which will take place on Friday of next week, the 22nd inst., at the Albert Hall. Full particulars next week.

"LADY M. SOMERSET."

A CORRECTION.

It will be remembered that in our issue of the 9th inst. in dealing with "Lady M. Somerset," we quoted a letter from a correspondent in which he suggested that this person was identical with a Miss Georgine Byron, a dealer in horses, at Reigate. We have now ascertained that this is not the case—Miss Byron being a lady of extremely good reputation. We are sincerely sorry that her name should have been introduced into the matter.

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?

See Page iii. of Cover.

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IMAGINARY INTERVIEWS.

By Walter Moore.

XLIV.—THE PRIME MINISTER.

"What do you think of the Irish now?" I cried.

Mr. Asquith checked his rapid walk through Downing Street, and looked round with a startled expression.

"Were you speaking to me?" he demanded.

"I was," said I, coming up with him.

"But I don't know you," protested Mr. Asquith.

"I interviewed you at the National Liberal Club some months ago," I reminded him. "You may not remember. Anyhow, I consider myself quite justified in hailing you, because the general public are simply bursting to know what you think of the Irish now."

"'Some thoughts must ever go untold,'" sang Mr. Asquith. "Indeed," he continued, "I was never so conscious of the poverty of the English language as I am at the moment, when 'I would that I could utter the thoughts that arise in me.'"

Overcome by the bitterness of his feelings, Mr. Asquith leaned against a lamp-post and buried his face in his hands.

"Cheer up," said I; "things are never so bad but they might be worse."

"Worse! worse!" cried the Prime Minister; "*how* could things be worse? I am in a hateful position. As all the world knows, I am constitutionally an honest man, and have no other desire than to be perfectly plain, open, and straightforward in all my political dealings. But the exigencies of the present political situation, the pressure of the Irish Party, the impatience of my impetuous followers, and the pernicious power of the party system, have all combined to force me into courses which I detest. I have been compelled to make bargains in secret, to treat with sections, to concede this, to promise that, to be, in a sense, all things to all men, and I feel that my humiliation is complete."

"Dear me!" I murmured soothingly; "don't take it so much to heart."

"Redmond trailed his coat," continued Mr. Asquith passionately, "but I dared not tread on it. The wild men of my own party snap at my heels. The Labour Party holds a political pickaxe suspended over my head; and sometimes I can feel that I have the secret sympathy of the Opposition. This last is the hardest to bear."

"Why not bow to the inevitable, then?" I asked. "As the philosophic Mrs. Poyser said, 'If you get your head stuck in a bog, your legs may's well go after it.' And there is small doubt that at the moment your head is deeply embedded in an Irish bog."

"I know it," sighed the Prime Minister; "but what can I do?"

"Surprise the country by doing the obvious thing," I said. "Throw yourself on the good sense and patriotism of the electorate. Explain to them that you no longer can consent to the humiliation of Parliament at the hands of the Irish members. Recommend His Majesty to dissolve Parliament, and then appeal to the country on the 'Business' ticket. 'Business' is the watchword of the rising political generation. Throw off the shackles of party, and join the noble little band of pioneers."

"But that might mean many years in the wilderness," replied Mr. Asquith doubtfully.

"And would not that be better than ploughing the sands?" I asked. "The wilderness might blossom like the rose; but you can't raise much of a crop on the sands of the sea-shore."

"It is an alluring idea," mused Mr. Asquith; "the bare thought of dropping party clap-trap, of shaking off the fetters of obsolete political dogma, and looking at facts and conditions as they arise with the clear, calm eye of commonsense; I say, sir, the mere notion of such a possibility warms my heart—of which common report denies me the possession."

"Well, help to make that possibility a reality," I urged, "and thus go down to posterity, not as an impotent Radical Prime Minister, but as one of the pioneers."

"'Pioneers, O Pioneers!'" murmured Mr. Asquith, unconsciously quoting Walt Whitman.

"Is there a nobler name?" I asked. "Will you join them?"

"Wait and see," muttered the Prime Minister, as with bowed head he hurried away.

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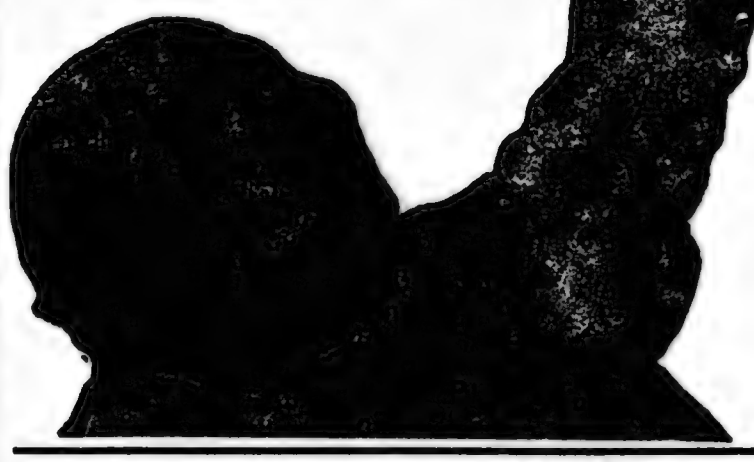

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THE HURLY BURLY.

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THE LAMENTATIONS OF MR. WALTER LONG, M.P.

In the opinion of Mr. Walter Long, "there is more strain and more dishonesty in public life now than at any time in the history of our country." I cannot deny that Mr. Long ought to know. He has some years of Parliamentary life behind him. He has been a Cabinet Minister. He has earned a lasting fame as the gentleman who muzzled dogs for the prevention of horrific hydrophobia and unmuzzled himself for the propagation of majestic commonplace. He has seen Parliament in an infinite variety of types through many changes of rules. He has enjoyed a good salary for the official dissemination of the noblest political principles, namely, those of the Tory party; and with his hand on his heaving bosom he has regretfully to state that public life is getting "wusser and wusser," as the coster said of his wife when they told him it was a fine boy and then changed the news to twins.

Our politicians probably do work harder than they used to do, when they do work, and it is well known that many of them have the cause at heart for nothing, or, at any rate, for nothing more than bright political prospects at home or an unnecessary official position abroad, or a paragraph in Debrett. In fact it is not credible that financial dishonesty was in the mind of Mr. Long when he spoke of the increasing dishonesty of public life. It is probable that he went up into his mountain of high principle with nothing more to cogitate than an alarming degeneration of political morals. The parties do call each other awful names; they do sneak each other's clothes; they do queer each other's pitch; they do call each other experts in the diffusion of careless inaccuracies.

There is not a pin to choose between the honesty of any one political party and that of any other. None of them believes half it says, or says all it believes. By its nature it has to trim and twist, to bluff and spoof. While every man in public life would resent Mr. Long's statement so far as it is a reflection upon himself, he would agree with it so far as he has persuaded himself that it applies to some other fellow. You have only to read the speeches of the members of one party and then the replies made by the members of the other, to understand that if only one tithe of what they say about each other's motives and principles is true, hardly one of our legislators is to be correctly described as a respectable person. Yet they visit each other without coming away with the silver teaspoons, walk about "as thick as thieves," as the phrase is, and dine and wine with one another like rival lawyers at a Bar mess dinner. We British are a foolish folk. Though we know well enough if we be Tories that there are some Liberal measures which would be all to the good and if we be Liberals that there are some Tory measure which would be all to the good, we allow ourselves to be deluded by all this bosh, bunkum, and blarney, that one party is always on the side of the angels and the other always on the side of Old Nick. And meanwhile the nation is being held up as the stakes of a gamble between desperate political gamesters. But not even from Mr. Walter Long can the implication be accepted that all the dishonesty and the chicane of public life is with some party other than his own. The same tar brush will go a long way round.

I suppose the greed of office in the leaders and the hope of honours in the followers have something to do with it. A vote for party is nearly always a vote for the gang who a few months or a few years previously were chucked out of the seats of the mighty for "messing" things up. For once on the salary list your old ganger dies hard, sometimes on a peerage, often on a pension. The proverbial cat of nine lives is not to be compared with him for superfluous vitality. He won't be poisoned, and he won't be drowned, and he won't commit suicide, and every election which finds his party in power finds him in office, bobbing up blithe and perky with a "Here we are again." And so the same old game goes on with the same old players, or almost the same old players; in and out, out and in. It is thus that Parliament has become an Institution for the Prevention of Beneficent Legislation; and this will it be till we who are blind with foolishness open our eyes and see.

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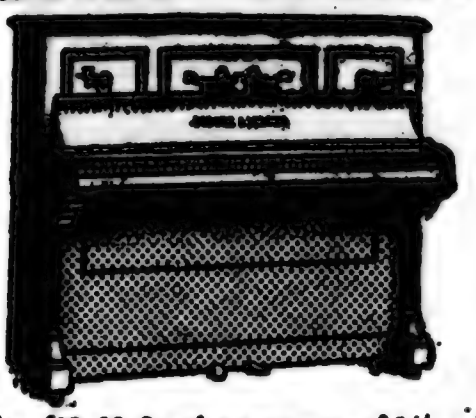

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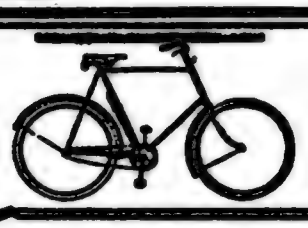

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THE DRAMA OF TO-DAY.

By M. Clement Scott.

"The Rivals."

Yes! There's no mistake about it: It's what George Graves would aptly call "fruity." Rich! ripe and "fruity!" How the fine old comedy lines crackle and sparkle like a bundle of Brock's most luminous fireworks! How the merry scintillating ripples of fun chase one after the other like so many capering "white horses" prancing hither and thither on the crest of a breezy summer sea.

And how cleverly the Lyric version of "The Rivals" has been manipulated. As Lewis Waller and scores of others have done with Shakespeare, so some inspired being has done with Sheridan. And all that might possibly have been deemed unnecessarily sentimental and gushy, such as the scenes between Faulkland and Julia, are entirely cut out, with the result that there is not one dull moment in the whole of this well-conceived revival.

To hear Miss Lottie Venne alone roll off Sheridan's brilliantly humorous "Malapropisms" is a treat in itself. The ease, the style, and naturalness which Miss Venne brings with her into this old world comedy of manners, make the performance so convincing that it is almost impossible to believe she is speaking such a profusion of comic inaccuracies.

An excellent foil to Lottie Venne's Mrs. Malaprop is C. W. Somerset's Sir Anthony Absolute, and here again we get a wonderful glimpse of that delightful school of acting and powerful elocutionary method which of late has been shelved for improved and supposedly more realistic effect.

Robert Loraine as Bob Acres is about as admirable a piece of stage work as this cheery actor has ever given to it, and the Sir Lucius O'Trigger of Leonard Boyne is another skilfully treated and well thought-out character.

As Lydia Languish, Miss Kate Cutler is a little disappointing. She looks as dainty and sweet as the most fastidious could desire, but her movements, her gests, her speeches, are on too narrow a basis, they all want enlarging and broadening out.

The part of "Jack" Absolute, enables Lewis Waller to cut a "deuce of a fine fellow" as the gallant but love-sick Captain.

"The Rivals," as it now stands is in three acts, and those in search of an amusing banquet that is not only appetising, but satisfying, will find one of the best at the Lyric Theatre.

"Trelawny of the 'Wells.'"

Oh Bohemia! Bohemia! what a weird fascination there is about that charmed cloak you wear . . . a cloak under which even the most affluent nowadays who live in an atmosphere of sham and artificiality creep, in order to seek some touch—however slender it may be—of truth and humanity.

Even in the down-at-heel days of "Trelawny of the 'Wells,'" which Arthur Wing Pinero presented at the Court Theatre over twelve years ago, there existed about his "theatrical folk" a sense of love and heart and tender helpfulness that to-day must be a positive eye-opener to the selfish well-filled money-bagged gentleman who only thinks of self, self, self!

But the "Comedietta," as Pinero calls it, is deliciously played all round, notably by Fay Davis as Imogen Parrott; by Hilda Trevelyan as Avonia Bunn, Irene Vanbrugh as Rose Trelawny, and Dennis Eadie as Tom Wrench.

"Trelawny" will probably serve Mr. Frohman's purpose as one of his repertory plays at the Duke of York's, but I cannot help thinking there are others in the Pinero library which would do even better.

I plump for "Dandy Dick" with Fanny Brough as the sporting heroine! What?

At His Majesty's Theatre.

If I mistake not, John Bull was one of the first to prophesy the great future in store for Phillida Terson, the youthful and hereditarily gifted daughter of Fred Terry and Julia Neilson.

Her exquisitely natural and artistic rendering of Shakespeare's difficult *rôle* of Viola in "Twelfth Night" has but substantiated all that John Bull uttered in praise of this altogether charming stage recruit, and I say to myself—"Hist: Methinks we have here another Ellen Terry in the field!"

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Nature's own inimitable remedy for Constipation, Biliousness and Disordered Digestion. Just as Nature creates it and intends it should be taken—it cures

CONSTIPATION

in a natural, easy, certain way. Inexpensive and effective. Try a bottle—and drink half a glass on arising.

THE PROVIDENT ASSOCIATION OF LONDON LTD.

PROVIDENT HOUSE, BISHOPSGATE STREET WITHOUT, LONDON, E.C.

Founded 1877.

Invested Funds £3,765,792.

ADVANCES UPON HOUSE PROPERTY TO CERTIFICATE-HOLDERS AND POLICY-HOLDERS EXCEED

Five and a half Millions

THE PROVIDENT FREE HOME ASSURANCE CO., LTD.,

Incorporated 1889.

Invested Funds Exceed £800,000.

W. W. BENHAM, *Manager*, Provident House, Bishopsgate Street Without, London, E.C.

THE CENTAUR CLUB.

The successful working of the Pari-Mutuel System has greatly benefited Club Members. A limited number of **ASSOCIATE MEMBERS** will be admitted at a Special rate of subscription. Full particulars and an interesting booklet sent free to sportsmen mentioning this paper—Address, M. D. Dando, Secretary, 39, Shaftesbury Avenue, London, W.

JOHN BULL'S WOMENFOLK.

By Mrs. Bull.

Millinery versus Militants.

A woman reader writes to me to express her opinion that we ought to include more news of the militant suffragists and their doings in this column, and offers to keep me well posted in these war-like feats. She says that all women like to read about the so-called "disgraceful" doings of these ladies (or they ought to) ever so much better than my feeble gossip about hats and men—or both. What will you? I admit that my weekly chatter may not have a Cause—and a bony chin and low-heeled boots—behind it, but as I and my readers are all supposed to be in John Bull's parlour, talking, I hardly think the introduction of so much noisy earnestness would be good form. The Bulls are essentially Victorian and decorous, and rather go in for good manners and mahogany furniture still. They still expect a woman to be decorative, and gentle, and inspiring, and are opposed, somewhat, to her being corsetless, raucous-voiced, and perspiring. Yet the actual cause that these good ladies have at heart is too fine and grave a one, with too large and serious issues, to be dismissed with a joke, and so I am asking any reader who likes to tell me whether or not we should from time to time publish accounts of the struggles in its name. Any noble aim or fine achievement of the militant Suffragists ought to rouse everyone's enthusiasm, only the difficulty would occur in our disagreeing over what *is* noble. I, personally, do not admire slates thrown off roofs on to the heads of an innocent crowd, or noisy persons chained to the spur of the very handsome and dignified statue of Falkland in St. Stephen's Hall. But I do admire those women who have ever scored by wit or kindness. If we could find some of those they would do for our parlour talks.

Lace Veils.

All fair-skinned girls and women ought to welcome the lovely, delicate black lace veils which are to be worn lightly draped round our more dressy summer hats this season. These delicate films of imitation Chantilly, lightly and sparsely sprigged and flowered with a rather emphasised border, are singularly charming when worn with one of the big black hats, trimmed triflingly with small blossoms. Properly put on, these veils have about them a quality which one can only describe as "enchanting." But it does depend upon the arrangement. Some women tie their faces up in veils till they look like the puddings we used to call "dog in a blanket" in our childish days; and others flop them like a circus-tent in a storm. They really want very deftly lifting on to the hat-brim by the two ends of the draw-string, and securing there first, and then the falling ends want very lightly draping up on to the hat with a veil pin, not so tightly as to pull the front fulness tightly over the nose, as again and again one is doomed to see. The whole secret of putting on a veil properly is in doing it quickly, after practice. Many a hat's effect has been ruined by an interruption at this touchy moment—a husband calling for a lost collar stud has even been known to do it!

The Modern Shepherdess.

The "Dolly Varden" hat was an almost certain sequel to the chignon, and I only wonder it has not appeared earlier. However, it is now being shown rather extensively, and is likely to become very popular as the summer advances. Some of the prettiest models are in very coarsely woven straw of a basket-like effect, and are very much tilted up off the hair at the back, and trimmed with Arcadian-looking ribbon loops and rather small, stiff flowers. For a young-looking or happy-looking face, these hats are delightful; but they are tyrannical, in that they do insist that you should look happy in them. All "misunderstood" or "yearning" people should carefully avoid them.

The Home Lady.

There are faint, faint signs stirring to show that at last the "house-proud" matron is, perhaps, coming into, if not fashion, at least into popular esteem again. How long she has been on the shelf! Her dancing, bridging, rinking, gadding sister has so long and so noisily performed before the public as the one and only "smart" person, that it is with real relief that some of us turn again to the news that several of the supreme leaders of fashion and famous hostesses are once again openly priding themselves upon their homes and the working and beautifying of these. And not only in these exalted stations are the signs prolific. Bit by bit, for the last year or two, people have been showing a steady desire to collect old and beautiful furniture, or good copies of old models for their home use, and nowadays people of quite limited income are steadily surrounding themselves with worth and beauty. It does really seem as though the home would again come into fashion, and the racing, rushing, dreary, homeless existence that we call "Continental"—we call all the things that wear our nerves to rags "Continental"—were being pushed into the lumber corner as out of date at last. You are now not sneered at, except by superior Club spinsters, if you are interested in your household linen-cupboard; and you once more entertain your friends at home and—whisper it low in case the "gadder" is by—you are permitted to make your own jam! The day may come when, like Becky Sharp, we shall pretend we can make puddings!

5,000

UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIALS

have been received by us during the last few months, evidencing the satisfaction with which our customers welcome our productions. This evidence is conclusive and speaks for itself.

In order to give also to you and to every reader of "John Bull" an opportunity of testing our workmanship, we,

THE ELECTROPHOT COMPANY OF LONDON,

will supply a limited number of

Portrait Enlargements

AT A PRICE WHICH IS

BELOW COST.

WHY WE DO IT.

BECAUSE we cannot describe to you how good our Enlargements are.

BECAUSE we want to show you how life-like they are.

BECAUSE we want to please you so much that you will show the Sample to your friends.

BECAUSE, when they see it, your Friends will be as pleased as you are.

BECAUSE your Friends will order Enlargements when they learn how cheap they are.

BECAUSE through your and their recommendations our trade will increase.

WHAT WE OFFER

SIZE: 18 ins. by 14 ins. (a Bust Picture will therefore be nearly life-size). This size is that of the Picture itself without any mount.

CORRECT LIKENESS: Guaranteed

TIME OF DELIVERY: In 14 to 18 days after receipt of Photo and Remittance.

SAMPLE PRICE: One Shilling and Threepence! This price includes packing and Free Delivery to your address. The price holds good for any Photo, whether of one or more figures or a group.—N.B.—Say whether you require a bust portrait, otherwise the Enlargement will be made like the original.

YOUR OWN PHOTO will be safely returned to you uninjured.

AS EVIDENCE OF OUR BONA-FIDES,

THE EDITOR OF TRUTH says:—

"The firm in question is the "Electrophot Company, of Welsbach House, Gray's Inn Road, "London, W.C. At their request "a representative of *Truth* "inspected their establishment in "all its branches, and I am consequently able to testify that "they are doing their work in "a thoroughly satisfactory style. "The company are manufacturers, "and are consequently able to "supply the public direct considerably below the prices that "are charged where agent's and "middlemen's profits have to be "paid. There is obviously a great "demand in the present day for "good enlargements of photographs, and it will doubtless be "a convenience to many people "to know how and where they "can rely on obtaining what they "want, and being treated fairly."

THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF PHOTOGRAPHY, after inspecting our establishment at our request, writes:—

"We have pleasure in stating that "our visit proved to us that the "Company carry on a satisfactory "and bona-fide business. We inspected a large number of the "18 by 14 enlargements, which "the firm is at present offering "for the sum of 1/3. They "represented a very creditable "standard of enlarged portraits "of this size made from a "'copy' negative. We were "allowed to inspect their files, and "found hundreds of unsolicited "testimonials respecting portraits "supplied, and saw for ourselves "that expressions of satisfaction "were forthcoming from many "classes of purchasers."

Should you be disappointed with what you receive we unconditionally undertake, in exchange for the enlargement, to refund your money. Readers of this advertisement will, therefore, do well to give our process a trial, since they can do so without running any risk.

All you have to do is to send us the best photos you have of yourself or of a friend or friends (**remembering that the better the photos the better will be the resulting enlarged portraits,**) together with 1/3 for each photo sent. When filling in the Coupon please state clearly how many photos you send and the amount of the accompanying remittance; and to avoid risk of loss, do not forget to WRITE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS ON THE BACK OF EACH PHOTO SENT.

COUPON *for* JOHN BULL *Readers.*

To the Electrophot Co., Welsbach House, Gray's Inn Rd., London, W.C.

I herewith send you ..... photo(s) to be enlarged on the terms of your offer, on condition that by so doing I do not incur any liability of any kind whatever. I also enclose.....in payment for same at 1/3 each.

Name .....

Address .....

For safety, all P.O.'s should be made payable to the "Electrophot Co," and crossed London County and Westminster Bank.

25,000 SIXPENNY SAMPLE PACKETS of CHOCOLATE FREE for fresh Purchasers of Suchard's "Ibis" Cocoa.

Knowing that Suchard's IBIS Cocoa need only be tried once to be used always, the manufacturers have decided to present, gratis and post-free, a sixpenny packet of one of their well-known Chocolates ("Velma," "Milka," or "Milnut") *to every fresh purchaser* of a ½-lb. tin of "Ibis" Cocoa. This offer is made solely for the purpose of introducing to anyone not yet acquainted with Suchard's Specialities a Cocoa and a Chocolate of superlative excellence.

How to Obtain the Free Gift.

First purchase a Quarter Pound Tin of Suchard's Cocoa ("Ibis" Brand) from your Grocer. It will cost you 8½d. Inside the round tin (just at the top) will be found a paper disc, here reproduced.

Facsimile of disc to be sent with coupon.

Attach this disc to the coupon below, which, after being filled up, should be sent to Messrs. Suchard, 33, King William St., London, E.C. A disc from ½lb. or 1lb. tin will do equally well.

In return you will receive a full sixpenny packet of one of Suchard's well-known makes of Chocolate—"Velma," "Milka," or "Milnut." You are given the choice.

Suchard's Cocoa ("Ibis" Brand).

There are many good cocoas, but none that can compare with Suchard's ("Ibis" Brand). Suchard's is altogether more palatable, digestible, and nourishing than any other cocoa made. It represents the very highest quality yet attained in cocoas—you need only try it to prove that this is so.

Nor can there be any doubt about its economy for family use—a breakfast cup full, at full strength, only costs a farthing.

Suchard's "Velma" Chocolate.

Certainly the greatest achievement in chocolate yet. In "Velma" one gets the real chocolate flavour. It tastes of nothing but chocolate. Until you have tried "Velma" you cannot really know how delicious chocolate—real chocolate—can be.

Suchard's "Milka" Chocolate.

Combining the purest Chocolate with genuine Swiss Milk, "Milka" possesses all the good points of other Milk Chocolates but it has this special advantage, it does not cloy in the palate.

Suchard's "Milnut" Chocolate.

A chocolate with a most delicious hazelnut flavour. This speciality has only recently been on the market, but has already achieved a striking success. It is a characteristic "Suchard" sweet—toothsome, nutritious, and absolutely pure.

FORM FOR FREE 6d. PACKET OF CHOCOLATE.

To Messrs. SUCHARD, 33, King William St., London, E.C.

Sirs,—Being a new purchaser of a tin of Suchard's Cocoa, please send one 6d. packet of Suchard's "Velma," "Milka" or "Milnut" Chocolate. I attach disc taken from the tin, which entitles me to this packet.

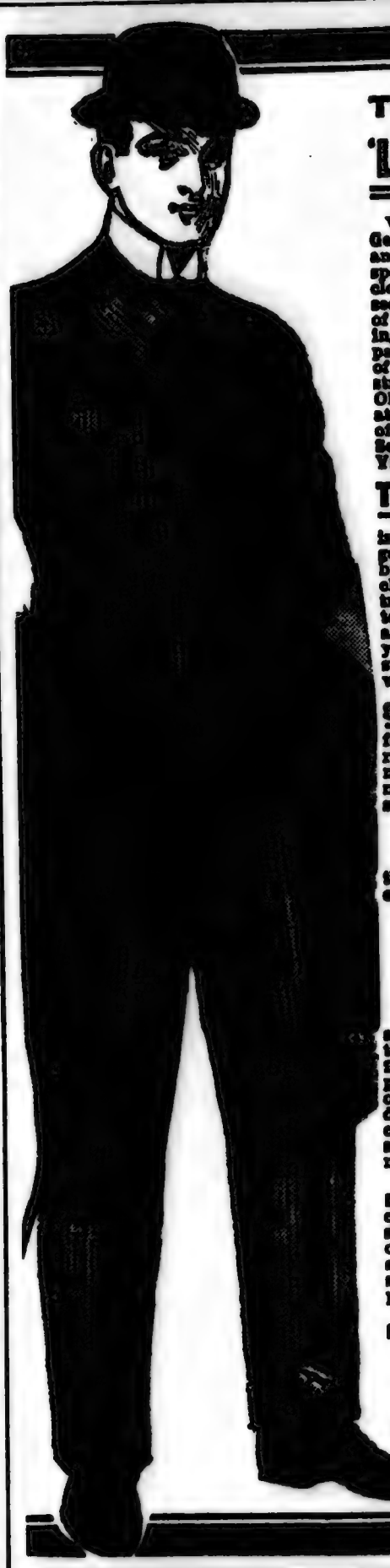
Name .....

Address .....

.....

Only One Gift Packet Sent to Same Address.

**Cross out the brand not chosen.* "J.B." 16/4/10.



This is our Popular 'LUDGATE' STYLE

We are now making this Smart, Gentlemanly Suit in all the newest and most attractive suiting cloths, specially produced by the leading cloth manufacturers for the present season's wear. We have a fine range of Tweeds, Cheviots, and hard wearing Yorkshire Suitings, and our patterns include a splendid choice of the extremely popular shadow stripes, both broad and narrow, in Olive and Brown shades and other attractive colourings. A good selection of reliable, wear-resisting Worsted Serges and plain Black and Blue Vicuna Cloths.

The "LUDGATE" Style

is not only a thoroughly up-to-date gentlemanly suit in appearance, but it is thoroughly well made, cleverly cut, carefully tailored and trimmed and finished in perfect taste. Our keen rock-bottom prices and convenient easy terms enable you to study your appearance at a surprisingly moderate outlay, and without feeling the effort.

SEND A POST CARD

for patterns, and we will immediately respond with a full range of attractive materials cut from the cloth lengths now being made up. Our simplified self-measure form is also included.

WE DELIVER

this handsome, well-tailored suit, exactly to your measures

for only **2/6** with order

and if your are entirely satisfied with the garments when tried on, send 2/6 on delivery and the balance is payable by six monthly instalments of 5/-, but if you are in the slightest degree disappointed with either the cut, fit, or tailoring, we engage to instantly return the whole of the money paid.

EVERY GENTLEMAN who appreciates STYLE, COMFORT & ECONOMY, should send a Post Card at once for our new selection of Suiting Patterns at 35/- 42/- and 45/- delivered for small deposit and easy monthly payments if you are entirely satisfied.

SAY IF DARK OR LIGHT PATTERNS ARE PREFERRED.

H. GRAVES Ltd.
SHEFFIELD.

NOVEL CO-OPERATIVE MONEY SCHEME.

SEE THE

"*WEEKLY REPORT*,"

10-15, Broad St. Avenue, London, E.C.

Fill in this Coupon for Sample Copy Free.

NAME.....

ADDRESS .....

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?

See page iii. of Cover.

BULL'S EYES.

Notes of Interrogation:—
Hasn't the Premier some curious followers?
Can the House of Lords be propped up with new "peers"?
What is the difference between Mr. Asquith and Mr. Churchill?
Isn't Lord Charles Beresford finding Mr. McKenna a negative quantity?
Do they call him "William the Silent" in Germany now?
Has Mr. Roosevelt ever heard the word, "swank"?
Wouldn't "Tariff" reform benefit our prisons?
Isn't the sale of blue ribbon going up in England?
Doesn't Rubber burst if too much inflated?
Is Miss Pauline Chase trying to live up to her name?
Does it matter *who* painted the Rokeby "Venus" if it is worth its price?
Is Somaliland a debit or a credit to the country?
Hasn't "Wait and see" *always* been a Government motto?

"Can Women Live more Cheaply than Men?" asks a morning paper. Of course not, the dear creatures.

"Whip's Retort," reads a headline. A slashing one, no doubt.

Sir Edward Grey has been explaining why Germany is so prosperous. But the Free Traders says she isn't?

"Literature is a long word," says a contemporary. Yes, too long by half.

The wife of a Radical M.P. complains that her husband is not advanced enough. But a woman always gets ahead of her husband.

In England and Wales there are 83,000 married persons under the age of 21. But if they waited until they reached years of discretion, would they marry at all?

Two men have been fined £100 and costs each for participating in a "knock-out" sale. They now say it's a "fair knock-out."

The Premier declares that the Government will have the whole Budget or nothing. Not half!

"Often poets are the first born of a family," says Mrs. Whetham. This sounds like an excuse.

The hen that laid an egg in Greenwich Police Court was clearly anxious to produce fresh evidence.

£90 for two forks, we read. A spoon is often more expensive.

Ex-telegraph boys are to be trained as waiters. But they ought to know what they have been making others do.

Heading: "Fortunes in Beet." The all-red root to wealth.

The Fraud of the Label is now being discussed. People shouldn't stick it.

Question for the tariff war: Can-ada beat Sam?

Will the Open Door between Japan and America be closed by a deadlock?

We read of £27 for a postage stamp. A licker.

The Asses' Club has just been formed. There should be no difficulty in finding members.

"It is a woman's highest duty to make the most of herself," says a ladies' paper. But the duty is often a great tax.

According to the *Gentlewoman*, all unmarried women should have a *hobby*. Another misprint?

An artist who painted the King's portrait claimed damages from the publishers. The Court awarded him 250 portraits on gold.

Heading: "Snakes 85 ft. long." Someone must have had it bad.

Shall we be able to say "razed" to the Peerage, soon?

We read of Notts knitters for U.S.A. Tariff Reformers will knit their brows.

Sir Robert Ball: "Those who were alive in 1861 spent a couple of hours in a comet's tail." We remember it well.

Mr. Haldane used a walking-stick made of cordite. The proper thing for a big gun.

Counterfeit florins circulated in South London are said to "feel greasy." They come from slippery customers.

Hall Caine has written a play called "The Red Shirt." We understand the tale has local colour.

The reference to an anti-swearing campaign, "Vicar Tries to Stop Swearing," might have been better put.

"When you know you are all right behind you can face the world," says Mrs. John Lane. We would rather *face* it when we are *not* all right behind.

"Premier Caught Out," reads an *Express* headline. But he may have another innings.

A warder at Chelmsford Gaol has been dismissed for conveying letters to a prisoner. He will now miss the post.

The headline, "Descent of Clothes," sounds hardly decent.

Your Clothes will Cost You Less

if you treat them carefully and have them cleaned from time to time by the Achille Serre process.

It is a process which removes all stains —and dirt—whether visible or not—and restores the original shapes of the garments.

It does not injure the material—it only takes a few days and the cost is trifling. Our charge for cleaning and pressing a suit is only 3/9.

Write to-day for a copy of our booklet "Clothes and the Man," and address of nearest branch or Agency.

Achille Serre, Ltd.,

(Nettoyage a Sec)

HACKNEY WICK, LONDON, E. Tel. 1268 East.

TO THE DEAF.

Simple Home Treatment Revolutionises Method of Treating Deafness.

FULL DESCRIPTION SENT FREE.

A marvellous discovery has just been given to the world which adds one more victory to the many triumphs of science over disease.

The Deaf can hear!!!

No longer need deaf people go about wearing the strained, pathetic expression caused by their affliction, a positive burden to themselves and those around them. No longer need they incur the expense or suffer the pain of dangerous surgical operations, useless methods, or cumbersome apparatus.

Old prejudices and time-worn fallacies have been entirely swept away. This wonderful discovery enables the patients to cure themselves speedily and surely in their own homes, without a visit to the doctor or even the aid of an appliance.

The current number of the *Otological Gazette* contains a full description of this new method of treatment. A copy of this issue will be sent free of all charge to every reader who is suffering from Loss of Hearing or Ear Trouble in any form.

Write to-day (a postcard will do) and secure a free copy before the edition is exhausted, addressing The Aural Remedies Co., 315, Craven House, Kingsway, London, W.C.—[Advt.]

PRACTICE *VERSUS* THEORY.

The answer to the question, "Is it possible to speculate without risk?" is an emphatic "Yes." And the proof is forthcoming in the issue of Investment policies by the First Dutch Insurance Co., Ltd., 46, Cannon Street, London, E.C. These policies are granted on favourable terms. Each policy remains in force until it has received profits to the extent of £1,000. Meanwhile the original cost is preserved intact as the property of the holder, and the Company undertakes to advance up to 75% of its paid up value. The whole scheme rests upon an actuarial basis and is in the hands of responsible and influential organisers.

The Full Prospectus has been filed with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies. The existing Rubber Vines and Trees on the Estates will enable the Company to commence tapping and exporting Rubber at once, and it is estimated that the first year's profits from Rubber alone will amount approximately to £11,460, sufficient to pay a Dividend on the Capital of this Company of nearly 10 per cent.

"After having carefully inspected several parts of your properties, I am very favourably impressed, and I am convinced that under capable and experienced management their development should be very successful."—*Vide* Mr. J. P. Brown's Report, dated 28th February, 1910.

THE PROPERTY IS SITUATE IN BRITISH DOMINIONS.

No Underwriting Commission has been or will be paid. As far as practicable all Applicants will receive an Allotment.

THE BOINSU RUBBER COMPANY, LIMITED.

Incorporated under the Companies (Consolidation) Act, 1908.

CAPITAL - - £125,000,

Divided into 500,000 Shares of 5s. each.
Of which 220,000 Shares are available for Working Capital.

ISSUE OF 340,000 SHARES OF 5s. EACH, AT PAR,

PAYABLE AS FOLLOWS:—

6d. per Share on Application; 1s. 6d. per Share on Allotment; 1s. 6d. per Share One Month after Allotment; 1s. 6d. per Share Two Months after Allotment.

DIRECTORS.

JACK THOMAS GREIN, 27, Mincing Lane, London, E.C., Consul of Liberia, Chairman of Rubber Ventures, Ltd., and Kerala Rubber Estates, Ltd., (Chairman).

FRANK WILLIAM MARSHALL, of Jules Karpeles and Co., Mincing Lane, London, E.C., and Calcutta, merchant, Director of the Kerala Rubber Estates, Ltd., and Rubber Ventures, Ltd.

THOMAS SCOTT ROGERSON, Holly Edge, Ramsbottom, Lancashire, Managing Director Cuba Mill, Ltd., Ramsbottom, and late Agent in West Africa to African Association, Ltd.

CHARLES WILLIAM RAMSAY, 62, London Wall, London, E.C., merchant.

GEORGE FREDERICK MALLINSON, 24, Corn Exchange Chambers, Seething Lane, London, E.C., Broker of the Baltic.

BANKERS.

LONDON CITY AND MIDLAND BANK, LTD., Threadneedle Street, London, E.C., and Branches.

BANK OF BRITISH WEST AFRICA, LTD., 17, Leadenhall Street, London, E.C., and 14, Castle Street, Liverpool, and Branches.

SOLICITORS.

For the Company—ASHURST, MORRIS, CRISP AND CO., 17, Throgmorton Avenue, London, E.C.

For the Vendors—JOHN THEODORE GODDARD, 5 and 6, Clement's Inn, Strand, London, W.C.

BROKERS.

COLLINS AND MAAS, 2, Drapers' Gardens, Throgmorton Street, London, E.C., and Stock Exchange.

PRODUCE BROKERS.

HALE AND SON, 10, Fenchurch Avenue, London, E.C.

COMMERCIAL AGENTS.

JULES KARPELES AND CO., 21, Mincing Lane, London, E.C.

AUDITORS.

FORD, RHODES AND FORD, 81, Cannon Street, London, E.C.
Chartered Accountants.

SECRETARY AND REGISTERED OFFICES.

HARRY GULLIVER, 21, Mincing Lane, London, E.C.

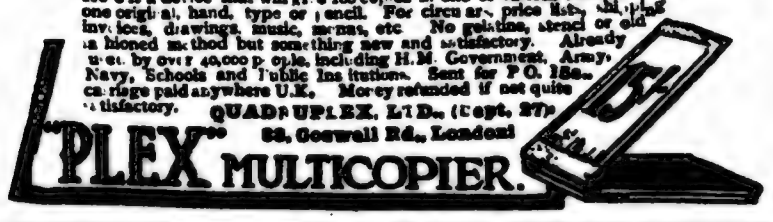
This Company has been formed for the purpose of acquiring, working and developing the Rubber Estates known as the Boinsu Lands, comprising an area of about 20 square miles, or 12,800 acres, situated on the east side of the road from Jemma to Mappe, with the River Boi running through part of it near the village of Boinsu, in the Aowin District of the Colony of the Gold Coast, British West Africa, about 50 miles from the coast. The whole property is (with the exception of about 300 acres comprising the villages and clearings) virgin forest, and abounds in Rubber vines and trees, and mahogany.

Copies of the Full Prospectus and Forms of Application can be obtained of the Company's Bankers, Solicitors, Brokers, and at the Offices of the Company.

20,000 COPIES!

and more can be produced by any novice for the sum of 15/-

Here is a device that will give 200 copies in one or various colours from one original, hand, type or pencil. For circulars, price lists, shipping invoices, drawings, music, menus, etc. No gelatine, stencil or old fashioned method but something new and satisfactory. Already used by over 40,000 people, including H.M. Government, Army, Navy, Schools and Public Institutions. Sent for P.O. 15s., carriage paid anywhere U.K. Money refunded if not quite satisfactory. QUADRUPLEX, LTD., (Dept. 27), 82, Goswell Rd., London.



"PLEX" MULTICOPIER.

Money Lent Privately, £50 to £1,000.

£50 repay £58 5 0. | £200 repay £225.
£100 „ £112 10 0. | £500 „ £560.

These terms quoted are for short periods. Loans for 3, 6, 9, and 12 months can be arranged and interest charged proportionately.

CALL OR WRITE TO THE WELL-KNOWN FINANCIER,
WOOLFE JACKSON, 28, Bernard Street, Russell Square, LONDON, W.C.

Appointments for Youths.

HOW TO GET GOOD POSTS IN BUSINESS HOUSES.

There has never been so great a demand fo **trained** youths to occupy well-paid posts in Business Houses, Banks, Insurance Offices, etc.

This demand is filled to a very large extent by trained students from Clark's College, and youths now joining the College do so in the full assurance that the end of their training will be a good appointment with future prospects.

We can absolutely find a good remunerative appointment for every youth joining Clark's College to be trained for business. The best Business Houses in London rely on the College for recruits to their staffs and offer its students their best vacancies.

The Complete Course of training lasts One Year and costs £14. This course may also be modified to suit individual needs. In any case, it means a full training and a good appointment for £14—a really excellent investment in every way.

Already we have successfully trained and placed over 45,000, and can do the same for you.

DAY, EVENING, and POSTAL CLASSES.

For full particulars and list of Successes, write or call for Free Prospectus No. 18.

CLARK'S COLLEGE,

The Civil Service and Business University of London.

1, 2, & 3, CHANCERY LANE, W.C.

(And Branches all over London).

JOHN BULL'S LETTER BAG.

[The Editor *replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.*]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when sending cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

CORRESPONDENTS, when referring to previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of ENQUIRIES *received consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag,"* AND ONLY THOSE OF GENERAL INTEREST *will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.*

AUTHORS and ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write names and addresses upon the back of their work. The Editor can accept no responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* WHEN STAMPED, ADDRESSED ENVELOPES ARE SENT FOR THE PURPOSE. ALL MATTER SUBMITTED MUST BE ORIGINAL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

The Editor *can express no opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.*

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be sent in the first instance; if inspection of the originals is required, a request will be forwarded to that effect.*

W. C. (South Hackney) complains of the treatment by the County Council Superintendents of the park constables, many of whom are put to gardening work, in their uniforms, and are subjected to all kinds of petty tyrannies.

G. C. (Clapham) confirms that story about men calling and asking for hot water for their tea-cans—the tea being a drug, the fumes of which at once stupefy the person pouring on the hot water.

"Cautious" (Thornton Heath).—We think you may buy your bicycle from O'Brien's, of Coventry, with every confidence that you will get good value and fair treatment.

S. S. (Jersey).—We have had many complaints about the treatment of the men in the King's Own Regiment, and had hoped things were more satisfactory.

If. J. W. and E. W. B. D. (Alberta, Canada).—Always delighted to hear from the lads oversea, and have enrolled you both in the League. Badges forwarded.

"Unionist" (Stoke Newington).—Of course the Post Office Savings Bank deposits are perfectly safe inasmuch as they are guaranteed by the State.

G. T. (Warrington) is anxious to join the League, although only twelve years old, and wants to know if his age is "illegible." We shall be delighted to welcome him a little later on, meantime he might do worse than join a spelling bee.

W. A. W. (Southport).—We have made the *amende honorable* to Bournemouth.

H. T. G. says that the correspondent who said that the priests had prohibited John Bull in Belfast was pulling our leg. He says 90 per cent. of our local readers are Roman Catholics, and that all the priests read us. As regards our Business Government proposals, "all Ireland," he tells us, "is at our back." In this case we shan't be long.

J. W. E. (Croydon).—We quite agree with you that the touting circular sent by William Farrer, the Amsterdam turf accountant, to your apprentice son is highly improper. On this account alone we should have removed his advertisement, had we not already done so in consequence of receiving complaints that he had not settled his accounts.

G. B. A. (York) says that in our recent letter to the Town Clerk of that city we did injustice to the Society of Friends, the members of which, upon the Council, voted for Sunday trams. We are delighted to hear it.

"A Member of the John Bull League" (Old Kent Road), and 144 other unjust persons, keep clamouring to know whether Mr. Joseph Chamberlain advocated three acres and a cow. Why not study something sensible.

"Putney."—No doubt many people spend or distribute their savings in order to qualify for Old Age Pensions. That is one of the drawbacks of a system that is otherwise admirable.

A. H. B. (Swansea) wants the address of a good trustworthy patent agent. We hope they will not all speak at once.

J. R. (London, W.).—Brevity is the soul of wit.

A. M. (Ryde).—"Salade a la Joe Chamberlain" was certainly appropriate, but "Petite Marmitte Protectioniste" sounds rather hot.

J. C. P. (Walsall) sends us some stories and informs us that "the joke is seen better when one knows the parties concerned as I do." But the worst of it is that we don't know them—and don't want to.

T. H. (Ayrshire) complains of the non-delivery of parcels on Sundays.

F. W. (Birmingham).—No doubt the lady had no choice about her birth, but she might have tried to avoid making a nuisance of herself.

"A Sufferer" (Catford).—It sounds stupid of the S.E. Railway to dun you for 6d. because you left your season ticket at home. But if everybody did that!

C. H. M. (Southsea).—We are making a note of the gratuitous impertinence for further reference, but the moral is that you had better abstain from answering advertisements in religious papers. Certain advertisers seem to labour under the delusion that the readers of these journals are afflicted with undue innocence.

C. H. S. (London, S.E.).—If girls are paid only from 3s. to 5s. for packing sweets, the inference is that they ought to be allowed to help themselves.

(*Continued on page 568.*)

CONVINCING PROOF

Don Quixote said "the proof of the pudding is the eating." The proof of the value of Mother Seigel's Syrup is in the personal experience of the hundreds of thousands of people whom it has cured of stomach and liver disorders. If you have no appetite, and cannot digest food, if you suffer from headaches, biliousness, constipation, anæmia, or any kindred trouble, arising from a disordered state of the stomach or liver, Mother Seigel's Syrup will cure you. The herbal extracts of which it is made will restore your stomach and liver to working order, give perfect digestion, make food nourish you, and thus keep you in excellent health.

THAT—MOTHER

SEIGEL'S SYRUP

Mrs. Huddleston, Eclipse Dining Rooms, near South Wigston Station, Leicester, says:—"I had severe indigestion—pains in the chest after meals, and gradually it got round my heart, giving me there a most awful pain, which made me feel sick. I couldn't sleep. My appetite left me. I was so run down I couldn't work. After only one bottle of Mother Seigel's Syrup I was cured."

CURES

STOMACH AND LIVER TROUBLES

The 2/6 bottle contains three times as much as the 1/1½ size.

ENTIRELY BRITISH.

The New £2 10s. "Express" English Lever

A fine example of English Watchmaking, containing all the latest perfections. Handsomely finished three-quarter plate movement, jewelled in all important actions. Chronometer Balance constructed upon the newest compensating principle and controlled by Breguet hairspring. An absolutely accurate timekeeper.

THE CASES are full size, beautifully modelled in Hallmarked Sterling Silver, engine turned; or 14 carat Rolled Gold, finished plain. State which you prefer.

Warranted for Seven Years

Standard British Timekeeper

WE DELIVER this Standard Timekeeper for

2/6

with order, 2/6 on delivery, and 9 monthly payments of 5/- after delivery if satisfactory.

Catalogue Free of Ladies' and Gent's Watches, lovely Jewellery, Engagement Rings Signets, Alberts, Bracelets, Brooches, Clocks, and Silver and Fancy Goods for Presents in great variety. On Easy Terms or Cash Discount

J.G. GRAVES Ltd., SHEFFIELD

Comfortable Chins.

After shaving, nothing will give such a cool, comfortable, velvety feeling to the chin as ICILMA FLUOR CREAM. Used overnight, it softens the skin, makes shaving easy, and prevents roughness, redness and soreness.

Of all Chemists, 1s. Send 2d. for sample to ICILMA CO., LTD. (Dept. 6), 14a Rosebery Avenue, LONDON, E.C.

Icilma Fluor Cream

PAID AWAY TO CLIENTS

ON SPECULATIVE ACCOUNTS ONLY.

£355,960

(The Sign of the N. S. E. is the Size of the £. s. d.)

BY THE

NATIONAL SHARE EXCHANGE.

How Clients Make Money—

Last week we published the unsolicited testimonial of a Client who admitted—

1. Satisfaction with Two Years' dealings.
2. A Material Addition to his Income as a result.
3. That he generally followed our Advice with Consistent Success.
4. That his few losses were due to using his own judgment or not acting promptly on our Advice.
5. That he considered our Advice essential to success.
6. That he had recommended us to his friends, who were equally satisfied.

Anyone may see the Original of this Letter, which we described as not being remarkable from our point of view. By this we meant that we are accustomed to such letters from clients. Why? For the simple reason that our clients make money.

OUR ADVICE HAS RESULTED IN OUR PAYING AWAY THE SUM AT THE HEAD OF THIS PAGE. FILL IN COUPON AT FOOT. GET OUR ADVICE FREE. YOU NEED NOT NECESSARILY ACT ON IT. JUST WATCH THE RESULT.

—By our Advices and Recommendations.

Clients Make Money by following our Advices and Recommendations. The inference is that they are good. That is true. The Client soon discovers that. It is our business to give good advice.

Every prospective Client gets our Advices and Recommendations, whether he is disposed to act on them or not. If he deals, that is satisfactory to himself and us. But if he doesn't he is, as a rule, watching the Stock Markets, and he very soon learns that we are worth following.

Bear in mind that we do not say we are always right, yet for some time we have been consistently successful, and for the last two months phenomenally so, as Clients can testify. Every Client has made money who has carefully and completely followed our Advice.

Below are a few amounts given in illustration of what we state:

Initials.	£	s.	d.	Initials.	£	s.	d.	Initials.	£	s.	d.
B.A.	2155	15	3	J.C.	497	9	3	W.A.McM.	605	4	3
G.H.H.	773	14	0	C.G.	365	7	6	E.M.H.H.	169	1	3
J.D.	945	3	2	G.H.	425	15	6	F.F.	231	3	3
G.W.	234	18	5	E.W.	195	5	9	W.D.C.	257	9	6
J.B.	703	17	3	C.P.	157	16	5	G.S.	314	4	2
R.J.C.	1134	9	8	H.B.	227	8	8	A.C.	300	18	6
J.L.	759	18	9	R.M.	244	19	11	H.C.R.	183	0	6
B.H.	220	8	5	E.M.	288	11	9	H.W.	171	14	9
J.W.	1066	1	6	F.C.	208	1	10	J.W.P.	231	11	3
W.P.	384	4	4	C.S.	761	14	0	J.P.	488	10	11

APPLICATION FOR PARTICULARS.

TO THE SECRETARY, NATIONAL SHARE EXCHANGE, Great Winchester St., London, E.C.

Please forward me (as my name is not already on your books) the name of the Stock or Share you recommend which will see a substantial rise in value. I wish to test simply by watching the result of your Advice and Recommendations, by which you have paid clients acting on your advice and recommendations £355,960.

J B.
332

NAME .....
(State Rev., Mr., Mrs., Miss or Title)

ADDRESS IN FULL .....

(Please Write Distinctly) DATE .....

This and all our advertisements are copyright.

Mr. Paterson Wingate, Secretary of the Hospital Nurses' Legal Protection Society, calls our attention to a rule of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, that, if a nurse becomes engaged to a doctor, one of the two has to resign, and says the same rule prevails in the Western Infirmary, Glasgow. We fail to appreciate the object of such a rule.

H. F. (Shuswap Lake, B.C.) tells us we help him to while away many a lonely hour, and suggests that when our special commissioner goes to Canada he should pay a visit to the interior of British Columbia and make enquiries as to the much-vaunted "36 acre farms" offered by the Dominion Government.

Election (Manchester).—Our Editor is not a Barrister and is not a K.C.

"League Member" (Wakefield) asks who is Mr. Elmer Shirley, 6, Great James Street, W.C., who guarantees a cure for catarrh provided 16s. is paid in advance.

"Armor" (Birmingham) gave some money for the Orphanage, Twickenham Park, Middlesex, and now asks if our readers know anything about the concern. Why not have enquired first? We know nothing about it one way or the other.

R. C. (Gravesend) complains of a local paper which fills the greater part of a column with disguised advertisements, and cynically observes that the reports of local events have been held over owing to pressure on their space. But advertisements usually do take precedence in most newspapers.

With respect to our enquiry as to the Handy Telephone Chart Company, a correspondent states that they worked Norwich in August last, and that he himself paid them 15s. 6d., but up to the present has had no chart.

A. S. (Torquay).—We note what you say about the movements of Pigott, but you may take it the John Bull League has its eye upon him.

C. G. (Chatteris).—We think we must give Mr. George Nicholls a rest now.

W. Mc. I. (Govan).—Our Editor is returned to Parliament as a Democrat—which includes all that is Progressive in public life.

A. M. (Cairo).—We make a special exception in our weekly ballot scheme in favour of readers resident abroad.

"A Fireman" (Southall).—We certainly agree that the upper classes are not less liable than others to make mistakes. Look at the House of Lords!

F. P. (South Queensferry) calls our attention to the hardship inflicted upon private traders by the exemption of Co-Operative Societies from income tax. It is a difficult and delicate matter to decide, but the trade has certainly our sympathy.

J. D. (Hemel Hempsted) is angry with the local branch of the Salvation Army. But he must put up with it. It is all for the cause!

H. R. (Skipton).—Sorry we can't find room for Clough's Piffle. He is a poor stick.

D. E. (Monmouth).—The man Williams is the victim of religious mania. We are sending on the documents to the Home Secretary, who ought to have him put under lock and key.

J. W. R. (London) calls our attention to one of the Collects in which occurs the sentence, "Have mercy on all Jews, Turks, Infidels and Hereticks." He thinks this rough on the Jews. But they don't mind. The Collect is a very old one.

A. G. L. L. (Yarmouth).—What a Mayor!

H. H. S. R. (Horley).—We are giving the Public Trustee a rest—and a chance.

Disgusted (Tunbridge Wells).—Tell your local M.P. all about it He is a good chap.

F. E. W. (London) tells us some funny things about the West End Hospital for Paralysis (Welbeck Street). What are the committee doing?

J. C. (Shepherd's Bush) gives us an amusing account of a recent P.S.A. service at Whitfield's Tabernacle, under the direction of Mr. Silvester Horne. We must drop in one of these days when we are in town on a Sunday. Anything for a pleasant afternoon.

Canary (Norwich).—Thanks for cutting. We are getting on, aren't we? Afraid no room for the other matter.

H. C. (Chiswick).—Does seem a bit late, doesn't it, to give the Guards a distinction in respect of the siege and capture of Namur, 1695?

A. L. (New Barnet).—Blow Branch!

J. B. B. (Sydenham).—Don't worry. Whatever else happens, the Income Tax is *sure* to pass.

E. P. (Sunderland).—Don't have anything to do with the "Ideal Sight Restorer."

"Cavendo" (Hull).—We wish we could advise you how to escape the attentions of circularising moneylenders. You might try sending them unstamped letters.

V. W. (Richmond).—If Baden-Powell is a soldier, give us sailors.

J. H. (Woolwich) defines judicial murder as "an intentional taking of life with the consent of the law." We should have suggested: "with the mis-use of legal forms," otherwise every execution would be a murder.

C. H. C. (Barnes).—The directory canvasser would apparently make a splendid member of our Business Government—but we cannot very well get a "chestnut" out of the story.

F. W. C. (Bayswater).—A very clever idea, but we cannot "see it," even with a microscope.

G. C. E. (Stepney).—You certainly cannot include the Nationalists as part of the Liberal majority.

H. L. B. (Ramsgate).—You are right about Lord Henry Somerset. "Achilles" is pronounced with the ch hard (like k) and with the accent on the second syllable.

T. F. C. (North Devon) thinks we are too hard on motorists—as though we never used motors ourselves!

L. B. (Brighton).—We have no special confidence in advertisements for partners, but there is no reason for assuming that they are all swindles.

E. T. (Antwerp).—It is rather late in the day to drag up the story about Gladstone's surrender to the Boers. What about Lord Roberts' alleged pacification?

A. C. C. (London, N.).—What made you think Irene Miller was a man? It is news to us.

"Contractor" (Kent) has been disappointed about a contract for hogwash. There is no accounting for tastes!

(*We regret we are obliged to hold over a large number of replies.*)

GALE'S SPECIAL.

ONE SHILLING PER COPY.

EVERY SPORTSMAN KNOWS!!!
"GALE'S SPECIAL" is edited by Mr. B. T. Gale, who has been identified with the Turf for upwards of forty years. The Editor is

A PERSONALITY IN RACING CIRCLES!!!
and is well known upon every racecourse throughout the length and breadth of Great Britain. If you follow "GALE'S SPECIAL" you

CAN SECURE WEALTH WITHOUT RISK!!!
"GALE'S SPECIAL" does not indulge in "swank" or give a lot of selections in order to make a show, but just a few good selections each week.

NO BOUNCE!!! NO FAIRY TALES!!!
The marvellous success "GALE'S SPECIAL" has attained has created a sensation in the sporting world, and this success and deserving popularity will be maintained by accurate and exclusive information.

TEN THOUSAND POUNDS FOR YOU!!!
would mean social and financial success and the realisation of your dearest hopes. If you would like to be released once for all from the drudgery that surrounds an impecunious existence "GALE'S SPECIAL" will help you!

WE GIVE YOU PROOF!!!
below that "GALE'S SPECIAL" has at command that knowledge which is the *sine qua non* of success.

GALE'S SPECIAL" TELEGRAMS
convey the most important and exclusive information ever placed within the reach of the racing public.

Recent Wires have Given:—

Monday, March 28th—		
OLD CHINA, 100 to 8 agst	.. .. ..	Won
MOANDUFF, 9 to 2 agst	.. .. ..	Won
Tuesday, March 29th—		
THEO BOLD, 7 to 1 agst	.. .. ..	Won
PITCROY FILLY, 7 to 2 agst	.. .. ..	Won
Thursday, March 31st—		
MOONSTRUCK, 11 to 8 on	.. .. ..	Won
Wise Love	.. .. ..	N.S.
Friday, April 1st—		
PENUMBRA, 6 to 4 agst	.. .. ..	Won
WISE GIFT, 5 to 4 agst	.. .. ..	Won
Monday, April 4th—		
RED SHAH, 5 to 1 agst	.. .. ..	Won
ULSTER KING, 9 to 4 on	.. .. ..	Won
Tuesday, April 5th—		
Saracen Princess, 10 to 1 agst	.. ..	Second
PLACIDUS, 3 to 1 agst	.. .. ..	Won
Wednesday, April 6th—		
HUCKLE MY BUFF, 11 to 10 agst	.. ..	Won
Cavallo, 7 to 4 agst	.. ..	Second

WHAT WE OFFER YOU!!!
is sound, trustworthy, reliable information exclusively obtained.

TATTERSALL'S RING WIRES!!!
FIVE POUNDS FOR TWELVE GUARANTEED WINNERS.
TWELVE WINNERS FOR FIVE POUNDS.
FIVE POUNDS FOR TWELVE GUARANTEED WINNERS.
"Gale's Special" Guarantees You Twelve Winners for Five Pounds.

OCCASIONAL ONE-HORSE WIRES!!!
ONE POUND FOR EIGHT. ONE POUND FOR EIGHT.
EIGHT WIRES FOR ONE POUND.

TWO-HORSE WIRES!!! FIFTEEN SHILLINGS PER WEEK!
TWO-HORSE WIRES!!! FIFTEEN SHILLINGS PER WEEK!
TWO-HORSE WIRES!!! FIFTEEN SHILLINGS PER WEEK!
THE TWO BEST THINGS OF THE DAY!!!
FIFTEEN SHILLINGS FOR FIVE MESSAGES!!!

DON'T NEGLECT THIS!!!
The sources upon which we depend for information are "going out" for something remarkable during the next fortnight, and John Bull readers are strongly urged to share with us the exclusive and valuable information we hold for the

CITY AND SUBURBAN!!!
Last year we sent out the winner of this important event, and we intend to repeat our success. We have another equal to WHITE EAGLE.
"GALE'S SPECIAL" has given thousands the information that has led to fortune, and will do the same for you. The road to success is before you and fortune will smile upon you if you are guided by the information we will send you.

HAD YOU KNOWN!!!
"GALE'S SPECIAL" has recently sent out RATHLEA, DESMOND'S PRIDE, INDIAN RUNNER, OLD CHINA, MOANDUFF, THEO BOLD, PITCROY FILLY, MOONSTRUCK, PENUMBRA, WISE GIFT, RED SHAH, ULSTER KING, PLACIDUS, Etc.

HAD YOU KNOWN!!!
your future would have been assured, but the road to success and fortune can only be reached through knowledge, and WE ARE IN THE KNOW.

We Definitely Guarantee to Send You Twelve Winners for Five Pounds!
TWELVE WINNERS FOR FIVE POUNDS.

Note that our ONLY address is—

GALE'S SPECIAL,
Ruskin Buildings, BIRMINGHAM.

Telegraphic Address—"WINNERS, BIRMINGHAM."

We undertake No Commissions for Clients, and do not accept Minors or Students at Public Schools as Subscribers.

Globe-Wernicke Elastic

BOOKCASES

A GROWING BOOKCASE

—that is the kind you want. A Bookcase that grows with your needs—not too big to begin with, not too little later on. The Globe-Wernicke "Elastic" Bookcase is what you require. It is built up in sections, is bought in sections, is always complete but never finished. It's the only satisfactory solution to the Bookcasing problem, and you, if you intend buying a bookcase, should investigate its many merits.

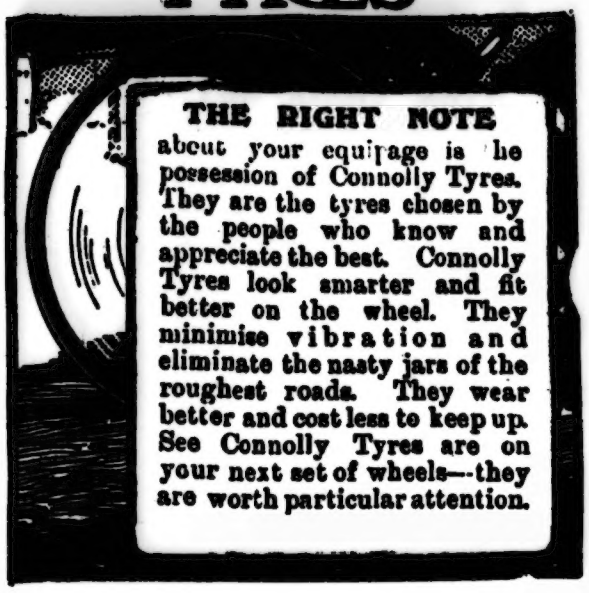
Packing Free. Orders of £2 Carriage Paid to any Goods Station in the British Isles. Send for Catalogue No. 176 B, free from

The Globe-Wernicke Co.

Office and Library Furnishers,

44, HOLBORN VIADUCT, London, E.C.
82, VICTORIA STREET, London, S.W.

CONNOLLY TYRES



THE RIGHT NOTE

about your equipage is the possession of Connolly Tyres. They are the tyres chosen by the people who know and appreciate the best. Connolly Tyres look smarter and fit better on the wheel. They minimise vibration and eliminate the nasty jars of the roughest roads. They wear better and cost less to keep up. See Connolly Tyres are on your next set of wheels—they are worth particular attention.

Write for Booklet No. 1, and name of nearest Agent, sent post free by

J. W. & T. CONNOLLY Ltd.,
King's Cross, London, N.
Leeds, Dublin, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Bristol, Cardiff.

WHITELEY'S
"KILDARE CLUB" CYCLES
£4 : 4 : 0
(12 payments of 7/-)

Are Still the World's Best Value in High Grade Cycles

They include the best fitments: Dunlop Rubber Co.'s Scott Tyres, Roller Lever Rim Brakes, Hyde Free Wheel, Appleby's Chain.

EVERY CYCLE CARRIES A SIGNED GUARANTEE

Humbers, Raleighs, Swifts, James, B.S.A., New Hudsons, Singers, Elswicks, etc., etc., by Easy Payments, with no extra charge for Twelve Months' Credit. Call or write for Lists immediately—Post Free.

Record Cycles at £3 13 6 are the cheapest Reliable Cycles

Royal Cycles at £5 5 0 (12 payments of 8/9) Dunlop Tyres, Perry Chain and Free Wheel

Money Back if not Satisfied *Carriage Paid to any Station*

WHITELEYS QUEEN'S ROAD LONDON, W.

Please mention "John Bull"

Matchless Mixtures.

Just try any one of the following perfect blends if you wish to experience real pleasure from your pipe.

"TWO HOURS" Mixture 5d. per oz.
Cool, Fragrant, and absolutely Pure.

"ALDERWOOD" Mixture 5½d. per oz.
In Three Strengths. Our Latest Success.

"LUNTIN" Mixture 6½d. per oz.
In Three Strengths.
The Blend that made us famous.

"MOUND" Mixture 1/4 per 2 ozs.
Blended from the finest leaf procurable.

All the Best Tobacconists supply the above, but should you have any difficulty, send stamps to the amount for Samples to the Manufacturers,

Thomson & Porteous, Edinburgh.

USE "NUGGET"

POLISHES BLACK and BROWN

"DOUBLE the LIFE of your BOOTS"

RACING NOTES.

By W. Lotinga.

("*Larry Lynx*" *of* The People, *and* "*Magpie*" *of* The Globe.)

Royston's Jockey.

D. Faulkner, the steeplechase jockey, goes abroad to Austria to ride this summer, the engagement having very considerately been fixed up for him by E. Martin, the trainer, with an owner who has bought Florence Nightingale and one or two other horses for Faulkner to ride.

China's Leading Owner.

Mr. R. McGregor, a splendid sportsman, who was over here last summer and went quite a round of racing, returned to Shanghai in time to lead in the winner of both the Shanghai St. Leger and the Eclipse Stakes. Both, however, are only half-bred horses of the cobby type; in fact, we should merely describe them as useful park hacks.

The Most Abused Racehorse.

Half Sovereign has evidently carried out a big character to the other side of the globe, as I see she was asked to give as much as 3½ stone, besides years in age, to others in her first race there. Moreover, the distance was a mile, while the mare does not really quite get five furlongs.

Quite Human.

The poverty of the form shown by several horses, especially if they exhibit sudden deterioration, is due to teething, about which few trainers trouble, especially if the horses are moderate animals. It is no uncommon thing to hear when a horse leaves one stable for another his owner express it that his teeth were in a horrible state.

The "Mr. Fairie" of Cape Colony.

The two-year-old Bluejacket, whom I recently shipped to South Africa, is for Mr. Harry D. Bradley, who was very well known over here some fifteen years ago. Having been associated prominently with racing in England, Mr. Bradley—now one of the mainstays of the South African turf—is only importing English-bred horses, in which he thoroughly believes. The Cape Town list of winning owners is headed substantially by Mr. Bradley, while W. Knapp, the leader amongst the jockeys and the "fashionable" apprentice of the moment, is under indenture to Mr. Bradley, but finishes his time this month.

Prophetic.

Newmarket nearly over, with Derby to come and then the important Epsom week. On Friday there are at least two good things,

Collegian

in the Quarndon Handicap and

Delirium,

who must take an *enormous* amount of beating in the Doveridge Handicap. The next day everything depends upon how

King Charming

runs in the Babraham Plate whilst these notes are in the Press, but if he is not penalised, or too badly disgraced, the big chestunt should gain the Derbyshire Plate. In the alternative, trust Victory to show that his Alexandra Park running was inexplicably not quite his best form. Our "dear" friend

Syce

figures in the Chaddesden Plate, and will either be first or second. It cannot *always* be the latter, so let us hope for the best.

It is a little unfair to have to deal so *far* ahead with the Great Metropolitan and City and Suburban. The class in the former is poor, and I hardly know where to find anything better than

Eaton Lad

to have a little on or each way, for his price will be very long. In the "City" I am dead opposed to Minoru, though earnestly hoping he will win for our Sportsman King. On the handicap he is *not* entitled to be such a raging favourite, and he would not be in any other ownership. My present views are that a little each way upon

Lady Vista

is likely to be more profitable—but the market will speak nearer the day, and I shall be able to give my *very* latest idea in *Lotinga's Weekly*, which is "out" on the very day.

NEWMARKET AND PUNCHESTOWN IN PICTURES.

Sporting Competitions for £105 in Prizes.

LOTINGA'S WEEKLY. WEDNESDAYS, 1d.

THE "MONDAY MIDGET" For Accurate Racing Intelligence. Published every Monday.

Price 2s. 6d.

Four weeks, 7s. 6d. Ten weeks, £1.

Plain Sealed Envelopes.

The "Midget's" Overnight One-Horse Code Selections

Published in all the principal papers in the U. K. every race day.

CINDERELLO

WAS THE M.M.

SINGLE HORSE Selection

FOR LINCOLNSHIRE HANDICAP.

Offices: "MONDAY MIDGET," ASCOT, BERKS.

THE TOTALISATOR

(Pari-Mutuel).

FLUSHING, HOLLAND.

The following are some "Tote" odds paid this season:—

Crystal Star, 57 to 1. Footguard, 57 to 2. Indian Runner, 57 to 1. Minehead, 54 to 1. Pinion, 27 to 1. Coignafearn, 100 to 8. Pitcroy, 14 to 1. Pyx, 41 to 1. Hinian, 25 to 1. Bobolink, 21 to 1.

Taking race for race during March, 78% of Tote prices against winners were better than starting prices.

First Pool Great Metropolitan closes April 12th.
Second Pool City and Suburban closes April 12th.

TERMS, etc., FREE ON APPLICATION BY PENNY POSTCARD.

Manager, H. CULLERNE-BOWN.

The GREAT "OUTSIDER" INDICATOR

(Sole Proprietors, THE RACING STUD. Estab. 1900.)

and controlled by a powerful Turf Combine, having won applause and confidence on all sides. Favourably noticed by Larry Lynx of THE PEOPLE, JOHN BULL, SPORTING LIFE, THE UMPIRE, VANITY FAIR, etc. THE RACING WORLD says:—

"A remarkable run of big successes for years past."

The GREAT "OUTSIDER" INDICATOR is a startling sensation and a brilliant idea. No tips nor assistance. Simple. Level stakes. Trifling Capital. WE GUARANTEE that it will find you FIVE BIG PRICED WINNERS out of EVERY TWELVE RACES. It found the L. & N. "double" CINDERELLO and JENKINSTOWN, besides over 85 BIG WINNERS since March 14th. Send stamped address quick for FULL WORKING PROOF and RESULTS which YOU CAN VERIFY. VANITY FAIR says:—"The greatest money-making inspiration of the age." The Racing Stud, 87, High Road, Turnham Green, London.

PAUL COVERDALE,

Turf Accountant.

NO LIMIT. NO COMMISSION.

All clients' business transacted in the strictest privacy. Cheques signed with nom-de-plume if desired, or payments made in Bank Notes, Money Orders, or Postal Orders.

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See page iii. of Cover.

W. Lotinga's Extra Nap, see page 548.

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To each of the holders of copies of JOHN BULL **of specified date,** bearing any of such numbers we will, upon production within seven days of publication (a reasonable extension will be allowed to foreign and Colonial claimants) of a sufficient portion of the cover to identify the date and number, pay the sum of TWO GUINEAS in return for his using his best endeavour for one week to increase our circulation.

The following claims have been received for the issue of March 5th:—

P. PROWD, 14, Upper Bagot Street, Dublin. (No. 160,917.—March 5th.)

W. ELLIS, 1, Tranmere Road, Earlsfield, S.W. (No. 343,207.—March 5th.)

Sergt. H. DALE, 3rd Battn. "The Buffs," Sergeants' Mess, Canterbury. (No. 219,949.—March 5th.)

ALLAN BUTCHER, 104, Ifield Road, Crawley. (No. 234,218.—March 5th.)

W. J. FIRMAN, 30, Belle Vue Road, New Southgate, N. (No. 362,130.—March 5th.)

ELIAS LETCHFORD, 2, Horsley Road, Rochester, Kent. (No. 31,248.—March 5th.)

Mrs. F. NICHOLLS, 8, St. John's Road, St. Leonards. (No. 144,854.—March 5th.)

E. HOGG, 183, Broad Street, Birmingham. (No. 74,328.—March 5th.)

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of March 19:—

14389	110167	146038	208951	304496
17960	110394	156434	214070	306325
24423	111139	156735	222995	310442
28363	116939	168111	231096	314874
41762	126140	173127	231592	324829
55457	127029	177849	234522	331448
62785	128031	181316	244586	334250
85747	128182	200062	265691	338609
103271	141086	203152	279538	349943
108238	144472	205720	300812	373738

INITIAL NOUGHTS SHOULD BE DISREGARDED, BUT FINAL ONES ARE, OF COURSE, RECKONED.

THE FIFTY NUMBERS IN RESPECT OF THIS WEEK WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN OUR ISSUE DATED MAY 14TH (PUBLISHED MAY 12TH).

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